

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

FEB 1 4 2020

OFFICE OF WATER

Ms. Joanne Throwe Chair, U.S. EPA Environmental Financial Advisory Board 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, MC 4204M Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Ms. Throwe:

Thank you for the Environmental Financial Advisory Board (EFAB) report, "A Decision-Maker's Guide to Alternative Service Delivery Options for Public Utility Projects (June 2019)." The report provides clear guiding principles for how local officials can effectively evaluate options for financing environmental infrastructure projects.

We agree with your finding regarding the need for local officials to thoughtfully and efficiently identify and consider financing alternatives at the earliest possible time. We also appreciate your recommendation that the EPA Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center continue to work with all interested parties in improving access to the entire range of available information on this important topic.

We will use this guide to inform the forthcoming "Alternative Project Delivery Learning Module" being developed by the Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center. This new module will serve as an informational tool for communities to consider using in water infrastructure investment decision making and will be available through the Water Finance Clearinghouse.

We look forward to continuing to work with the EFAB in examining and addressing environmental financing challenges facing the Agency. If you have any questions regarding the work of the Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center, please contact Sonia Brubaker at (202) 564-0120 or brubaker.sonia@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andrew Sawyers

Director, Office of Wastewater Management

cc: Edward H. Chu, Designated Federal Officer, Environmental Financial Advisory Board Benita Best-Wong, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Water Raffael Stein, Director, Water Infrastructure Division Sonia Brubaker, Director, Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center