SAVINGS ACTION PLAN

THE CHALLENGE
$64B SHORTFALL IN FUNDING FOR RURAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

The most recent EPA "Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey" reports a shortfall in funding for rural drinking water infrastructure of $64 billion.

Signed into law in December 2016, the Water Supply Cost Savings Act (PL 114-322) requires EPA and USDA to establish clearinghouses of information about cost-saving, innovative, and alternate drinking water delivery systems, primarily focused on the utilization of wells and well systems.

The law also requires that individual, shared and community wells be considered by all applicants seeking federal funding for drinking water systems serving 500 or fewer people.

The drinking water challenges facing rural America are particularly acute, and many of these small communities lack the tax base to pay for expensive drinking water treatment and delivery systems.

Greater utilization of water wells and well systems to provide rural America with safe, affordable drinking water can save state, local and federal governments billions of dollars over the next decade.

THE SOLUTION
DEDICATED FUNDING FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Of the 52,000 community water systems in the U.S., 41,801 are small community water systems, and 27,500 serve communities of 500 or fewer.

Wells and well systems are a cost effective source of drinking water for thousands of small communities.

This innovative approach to meeting our nation's drinking water challenges will help bring quality drinking water to rural America for a fraction of the cost.

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