



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

September 8, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
William Jefferson Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, 1101A
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

I am writing to express my support for the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) requests as conveyed in its letter to Administrator Coleman on September 1. With Hurricane Harvey, Texas has faced an unprecedented natural disaster. Quick action, flexibility and innovation are required of us all to keep Texas and our economy strong.

I believe that EPA State Revolving Funds (SRF) administered by TWDB could be used to address immediate recovery and future resiliency efforts. In particular, these funds could be used as bridge financing to galvanize the recovery process between now and the delivery of federal aid, and also to address future stormwater infrastructure needs. SRF assistance should be expeditiously delivered so that Texans affected by Hurricane Harvey have functional water and wastewater systems, an absolute prerequisite to our communities' recovery. To this end, I strongly support TWDB's proposals for certain allowances and procedural changes to SRF programs, as outlined in the agency's letter.

We anticipate a positive outcome of the September 11 meeting and look forward to working with you to help rebuild Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

Greg Abbott
Governor