FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: June 5, 2025

Clean Water Coalition Thanks Joint Finance Committee for Supporting Vital Water Infrastructure Funding

MADISON, Wis. – The Clean Water Fund Coalition thanks the Joint Committee on Finance for its unanimous 16-0 vote to increase revenue obligation bonding authority for the Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF), and Rep. Todd Novak and Sen. Wimberger for their work on this initiative. We also appreciate Governor Evers for including this important increase in his budget proposal. Together, this action will help meet growing demand for essential wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects in communities across Wisconsin.

"This action ensures communities can move forward with critical water projects while maintaining the self-sustaining nature of the EIF," said the coalition, which includes the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, Municipal Environmental Group – Wastewater and Drinking Water Divisions, NEW Water (the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District), Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, and Wisconsin Rural Water Association.

The EIF offers low-interest loans to municipalities without relying on state general purpose revenue. This biennium year marked the first time the program couldn't meet demand, leaving a $216.5 million shortfall. The committee's decision helps prevent further delays and rising costs for utilities and ratepayers.

Contact:

Greg Hubbard – 608-334-6603
Toni Herkert – 608-267-2380