

September 25, 2024

The Honorable Shalanda Young  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Director Young:

We appreciate the Biden-Harris Administration's bold leadership and substantial efforts to remove nearly all lead service lines from across our nation within 10 years. The commitment to ensure safe, lead-free drinking water in every community has been evident through both federal investments and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) proposed rule that was published in December 2023 and submitted for finalization to the White House Office of Management and Budget's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in August 2024. This proposal represents another critical step forward that will protect public health, create jobs and ensure a better future for our children. We write to underscore the importance of finalizing the LCRI before October 16, 2024, to avoid a default implementation of the previous administration's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR).

As you know, if the rule is not finalized by October 16, water systems and states will be required to start complying immediately with the deeply problematic LCRR. EPA concluded that temporary implementation of the LCRR rule from the prior administration will create bureaucratic complexity and confusion for regulated entities, waste scarce resources, result in widespread non-compliance and risk delaying or failing to realize the full benefits of the LCRI. *See* 88 Fed. Reg. at 84,903, 84,967-69. In addition to the unnecessary potential confusion and complexity, the prior administration's LCRR would put public health at risk by implementing inadequate policies that do not meaningfully address the lead contamination problems in communities across the country.

Finalizing the LCRI in a timely way also works to protect our most vulnerable. Lead service lines are disproportionately located in low-income communities and communities of color. This increased risk of lead-contaminated drinking water factors into disadvantaged communities' greater cumulative risk of lead exposure. Early lead exposure can lead to lasting behavioral and intellectual disabilities and research shows that children who were exposed to lead are more likely to have lower socioeconomic statuses than their parents in adulthood. But adults are not exempt from lead's impacts; exposure causes cardiovascular and renal problems as well as an increase in all-cause mortality. There is no safe level of lead exposure.

The commitment of the Biden-Harris Administration and its EPA extends beyond the LCRI, but a timely final LCRI is necessary to stop the ongoing environmental health crises. The \$15 billion in dedicated funding for lead pipe replacement and additional \$11.7 billion in grants, loans and principal forgiveness made possible through Congress's passage of Senator Duckworth's *Drinking Water and Wastewater*

*Infrastructure Act*, included in the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* and other sources, need the proposed LCRI to be finalized to ensure safe and expedient implementation.

A timely final LCRI is necessary to immediately and urgently address lead contamination in communities across the country and remove the estimated 9 million service lines across the nation that contain lead. The final rule will ensure that safe and lead-free drinking water is available in all communities, and we look forward to continue working with you on this effort.

Sincerely,



Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



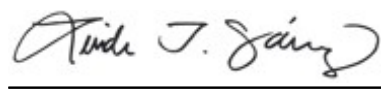
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



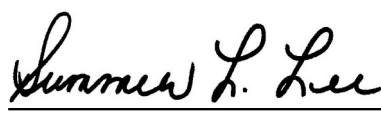
Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress




Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



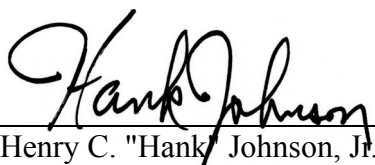
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



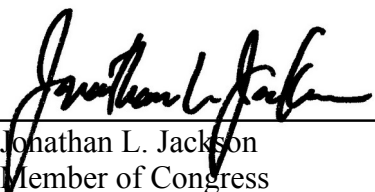
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



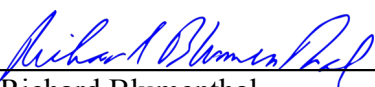
Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



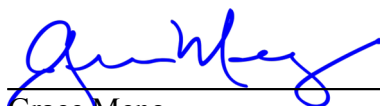
Patrick Ryan  
Member of Congress




Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



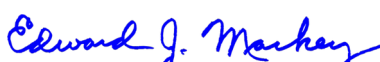
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



J. H. Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



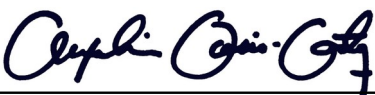
Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



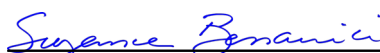
Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Tina Smith  
United States Senator



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



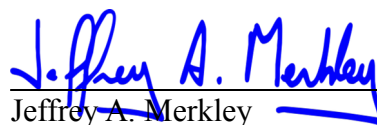
Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



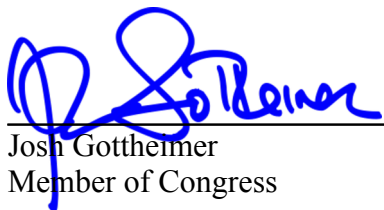
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



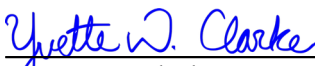
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



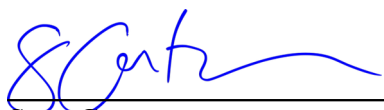
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



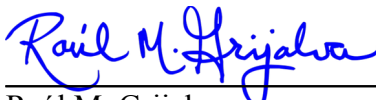
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



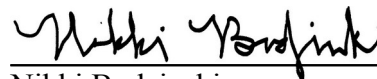
Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



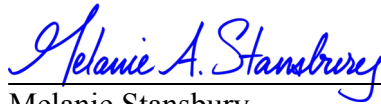
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



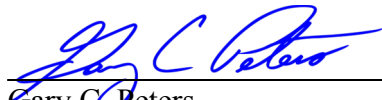
Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



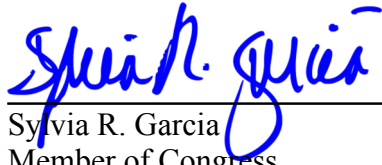
Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



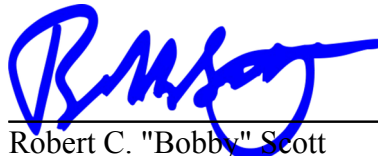
Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



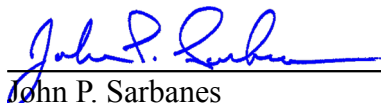
Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



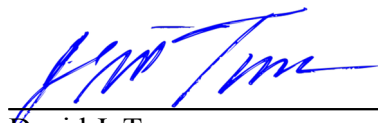
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



David J. Trone  
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



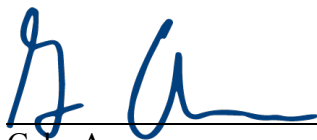
Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress

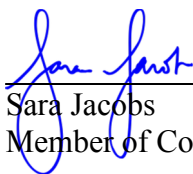


Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator

A stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large 'G' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

---

Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sara Jacobs' with a large, looping 'S' and 'J'.

---

Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, clearly legible as 'Darren Soto'.

---

Darren Soto  
Member of Congress