The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program accelerates investment in our nation’s water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects.

SEWER SYSTEM EVALUATION AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM

BORROWER: Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans
LOCATION: New Orleans, Louisiana
WIFIA LOAN AMOUNT: $275,000,000
TOTAL WIFIA PROJECT COSTS: $561,224,490
POPULATION SERVED BY PROJECT: 390,000
NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED: 1,800

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will undertake over 160 projects to modernize aging and storm damaged sewer pipelines throughout the city as part of its comprehensive Sewer System Evaluation and Rehabilitation Program. Together, they will vastly improve the city’s sewer system infrastructure to help protect nearby waterbodies and achieve compliance with its consent decree. These projects are designed to be climate resilient. They will reduce inflow and infiltration, prevent breaks and leaks in sewer lines, reduce flood risk, and help maintain existing infrastructure during wet weather events.

PROJECT BENEFITS
• Modernizes the city’s wastewater system infrastructure and helps achieve consent decree compliance.
• Increases the resiliency of the system to withstand wet weather events.
• Helps protect historically disadvantaged communities from the impacts of climate change.
• Saves the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans approximately $100 million by financing with a WIFIA loan.