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.

JOINT WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT EFFLUENT OUTFALL TUNNEL PROJECT

BORROWER: Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
LOCATION: Los Angeles County, California
WIFIA LOAN AMOUNT: $441 million
TOTAL WIFIA PROJECT COSTS: $900 million
POPULATION SERVED BY PROJECT: 5 million people
NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED: 2,880

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts will implement the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant Effluent Outfall Tunnel Project to expand wastewater treatment capacity, modernize aging infrastructure, and protect water quality. The county’s two effluent outfall tunnels are beyond their useful life and do not meet current seismic standards. If they fail, untreated sewerage could be discharged into surrounding waterways, impacting public health and the environment. This project will replace both outfall tunnels with one new 18-foot diameter, 7-mile-long tunnel that will handle current and future flows while providing seismic resistance and system redundancy. By completing this project, the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts aim to eliminate the risk of unpermitted discharges of untreated sewage. The districts are also generating a positive economic impact by creating good, local jobs. Currently, the borrower is exceeding its goal of having at least 30 percent of craft hours worked to be performed by local residents and at least 10 percent completed by transitional workers, resulting in millions of dollars in earned wages. When completed, the project will positively impact 5 million people across 73 cities in Los Angeles County.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Modernizes aging infrastructure and creates local jobs.
- Protects public health and mitigates risks of seismic activity.
- Saves County Sanitation District No. 2 of Los Angeles County approximately $76 million by financing with a WIFIA loan.