

January 5, 2012

The Honorable Lisa P. Jackson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

As you make the final decisions regarding the allocation of funds appropriated to the Environmental Protection Agency for Fiscal Year 2012, we urge you to provide a small but meaningful increase in funding for the WaterSense program. An increase of \$500,000 in this fiscal year would increase this program by nearly 20%, allowing additional product specifications, market research, partner collaboration, and program documentation.

We appreciate the support you have provided for WaterSense to date. In a year when other important programs at EPA have been cut, we are very grateful that FY 2011 funding for WaterSense was maintained. But even in these challenging fiscal times, the productivity and success of this program on a small budget argues strongly for additional support. A small shift in funding within EPA can yield substantial additional water and energy savings over time – savings that will be even more valuable to consumers and communities facing the uncertainties of a changing climate on the nation's supply of drinking water. Now more than ever, WaterSense is an especially good value due to its ability to leverage significant non-federal resources with a small amount of federal funding.

This voluntary and highly cost-effective program is an excellent investment for American consumers, businesses, and state and federal government. As stakeholders from diverse sectors of the economy and each corner of the Nation, we join in seeking a modest increase for this program. Under your leadership, WaterSense can become an even more effective tool for making more efficient and responsible use of the Nation's valuable water resources.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Signed by:

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WaterSense Funding FY12 Letter

January 5, 2012

Page 2 of 7

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WaterSense Funding FY12 Letter

January 5, 2012

Page 3 of 7

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WaterSense Funding FY12 Letter

January 5, 2012

Page 5 of 7

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WaterSense Funding FY12 Letter

January 5, 2012

Page 6 of 7

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WaterSense Funding FY12 Letter

January 5, 2012

Page 7 of 7

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