



NOWRA's Federal Advocacy



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About Polsinelli

- Polsinelli serves clients nationally across the full spectrum of their needs:
 - 100+ services and 70+ industry areas
 - 850 Attorneys
 - 20 Offices: including Washington, Boston, St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Dallas, Denver, Phoenix, Nashville, Atlanta, and San Francisco



Constitutional Right to Advocate



Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Washington DC—Why Bother?

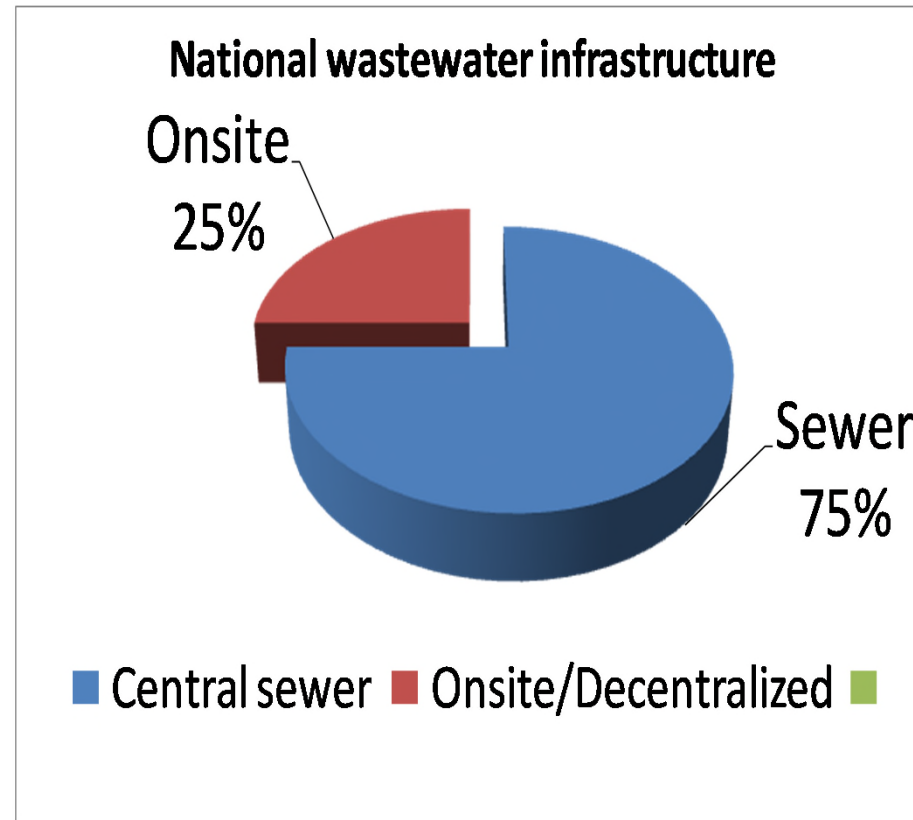
- Interact with industry allies and decision makers
- Build and strengthen relationships with Congressional allies & relevant agencies
- Get analysis and intelligence on relevant regulatory & legislative matters
- Keep NOWRA at the table—not on the menu



How Can Advocacy Help?

- Increase market share for new construction
- Secure a larger share of existing federal funding for wastewater treatment
- Get federal government to change policies which discriminate against our industry
- Prevent new policies from negatively impacting NOWRA members

The Case for Increased SRF Funding



The Case for Increased SRF Funding



Proportion of CWSRF
funding for onsite vs.
central sewer

Accomplishments So Far

- Secured Appropriations language leading to more resources for EPA's Decentralized Program
- Enacted provisions of the NOWRA Act to help deploy onsite systems and resolve federal funding disparity
 - Directs EPA to create an onsite technical assistance website
 - Directs the EPA to report the amount of CWSRF funding provided to deploy onsite systems and identify barriers to that deployment
- Expanded USDA's Household Water Well Systems Grant Program to include onsite systems for first time
- Increased authorized funding for residential decentralized systems through USDA's Water & Waste Disposal Loans & Grants program

Accomplishments So Far

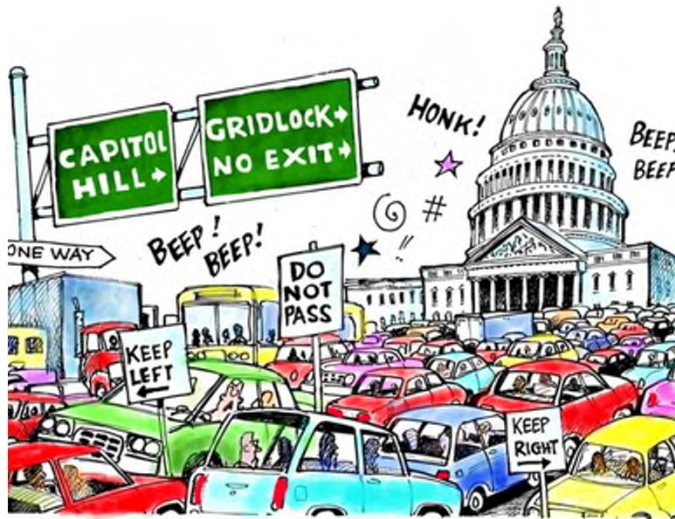
- Built credibility for NOWRA and increased Fly In participation
 - Created the Congressional Decentralized Wastewater Recycling Caucus
 - Members of Congress addressing NOWRA at Fly Ins and 2018 Mega Conference
- Secured EPA's support for Census Bureau to add residential wastewater question to the American Communities Survey to provide critical data
- Strengthened relationships with allied organizations

Current Activities

- Supporting legislation to create new grant program for decentralized systems
- Working to fund USDA's Water Well Systems Grant Program
- Guiding EPA's work to set up online resources and report to Congress
- Establishing new allies in Congress and the Trump Administration
- Leveraging grassroots activity to strengthen constituent ties and grow the Congressional Caucus



Opportunities & Threats



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- Continued Congressional gridlock
- Tight budgets, but bipartisan agreement on need for more infrastructure spending
- Increased awareness of water issues
- Biannual WRDA beginning to move with bipartisan support

Trump Administration Activities

- Strengthening relationships with career staff who will remain in place—not the “Deep State”
- Expanding EPA’s resources and focus
- Identifying additional funding opportunities through the EPA and USDA



What Can You Do?

- Ask your Member of Congress to join the Caucus
- Write or call your Member of Congress/Senator
- Meet with your Member of Congress/Senator when they are in the District/State
- Invite your Member of Congress/Senator to visit your facility
- Contribute money and time to campaigns
- Attend NOWRA's 2020 Washington Fly-In