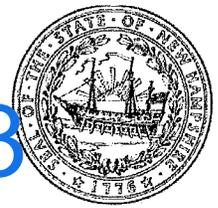




The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

63



March 25, 2026

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

February 23, 2026

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to **retroactively** pay the 2026 membership dues to the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities, (VC#280415-B001), Farmington, CT in the amount of \$2,500 for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, effective upon Governor and Council approval. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the following accounts:

	<u>FY 2026</u>
03-44-44-441018-5564-026-500251 Dept of Environmental Services, DWSRF BIL Administration, Organizational Dues	\$1,250
03-44-44-441018-2002-026-500251 Dept of Environmental Services, CWSRF Administration, Organizational Dues	\$1,250

EXPLANATION

This request for dues is **retroactive** because the invoice was received after the meeting submission deadline. This is the first year the membership dues have been over the Governor and Council monetary threshold. The Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA) is a national not-for-profit organization that represents the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs).

SRFs are state-federal partnerships that provide communities with low-cost subsidized loans for water infrastructure that protects public health and the environment. Over the last three decades, the programs combined have generated an investment of more than \$216 billion in a variety of water projects, including drinking water treatment, wastewater treatment, water recycling, stormwater management, pollution prevention, environmental conservation and efficient infrastructure.

The purpose of CIFA is to foster investment in water infrastructure by advocating for sound public policy and encouraging increased federal funding and engaged capital markets. CIFA objectives are:

- To emphasize the importance of water infrastructure to protect public health and the environment and enhancing the resiliency and economic vitality of our communities.

- To advocate for federal funding for the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs.
- To advocate for a federal regulatory framework that maximizes taxpayer and ratepayer investment in water infrastructure.
- To promote innovation and flexibility in the implementation of SRFs and other water infrastructure programs so that states can tailor these tools based on the distinct needs of their communities.
- To foster excellence by sharing successful strategies for implementing and managing water infrastructure investment programs, particularly SRFs.
- To coordinate and collaborate with other organizations to advance and achieve our mission.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

- **How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?** The organization has been in existence since 1988 and New Hampshire has been a member since 2018.
- **Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?** This is the only organization that is involved in financing water infrastructure that protects public health and the environment.
- **How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?** All 50 states, 2 associates and 21 affiliates belong to this organization. NHDES is the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member.
- **How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc.)** Dues are based on state population with four different tiers. New Hampshire is in the lowest population tier.
- **What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?** The state receives enormous benefits of membership in several ways. First, the state gains access to high-ranking Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administration personnel, which allows for interactions that likely would not otherwise occur. Second, state SRF staff are able to collaborate with other state SRF programs to share challenges and solutions. Third, the state receives up-to-date information on Federal policies and budgets that helps for agency long-term planning and budgeting.
- **Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.** Yes. CIFA offers its members training through meetings, printed materials, webinars, and other online resources. Each spring, CIFA hosts the SRF Summit in Washington, D.C. - an interactive, leadership-focused event designed to advance strategy and innovation alongside CIFA's full advocacy team. In the fall, CIFA organizes the annual SRF Workshop at rotating locations across the country, delivering timely, practical content in a

collaborative setting with dynamic speakers, expanded programming, and engaging networking opportunities. Membership includes access to meetings, webinars, and online resources. Attendance at the spring SRF Summit and fall SRF Workshop requires an additional fee.

- **Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.** No.
- **Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.** No. Travel costs associated with CIFA events is covered by individual NHDES programs.
- **Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.** Membership covers unlimited Drinking Water and Clean Water SRF staff. The Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau's Deputy Bureau Administrator participates in the CIFA EPA Committee and is a representative on the SRF State-EPA Workgroup which meets at the SRF Summit and SRF Workshop.
- **Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.** The state would not have up-to-date information on important decisions being made at the federal level that have an impact on the state's ability to fund and implement water infrastructure funding programs for critical infrastructure. At and through CIFA, New Hampshire can have a strong a voice in national policy. In addition, through the CIFA interactions, especially by serving on CIFA Committees and SRF State-EPA workgroup, NHDES has built relationships with staff at the headquarter level at EPA. These relationships are very helpful in working through issues that involve implementation of water infrastructure funding programs in New Hampshire. Strong connections with EPA are important, especially in a time of funding uncertainty and funding cuts to SRF programs for Congressionally Directed Spending.

CFIA membership provides New Hampshire with an avenue to learn about new developments and to have a voice in discussion of important issues affecting the State's SRF funding. Membership in the past has been of great benefit to New Hampshire with expanded advocacy, new partnerships, and innovative opportunities to learn from and engage with SRF programs across the country. These dues are a small investment for the value received from this organization in terms of our ability to both stay abreast of important water infrastructure funding issues and provide the New Hampshire perspective.

We respectfully request your approval.



Robert R. Scott
Commissioner

INVOICE

Council of Infrastructure
Financing Authorities
10 Executive Dr Ste 205
Farmington, CT 06032-2841

cifa@cifanet.org
+1 (202) 800-0068
www.cifanet.org



Bill to

New Hampshire Department of
Environmental Services
P.O. Box 95
Concord, New Hampshire 03302

Ship to

New Hampshire Department of
Environmental Services
P.O. Box 95
Concord, New Hampshire 03302

Invoice details

Invoice no.: 2026-35
Terms: Net 30 Days
Invoice date: 12/01/2025
Due date: 01/01/2026

Date	Product or service	Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
	Dues	2026 Annual Membership Dues (January 1 - December 31, 2026)	1	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00

Total **\$2,500.00**

Ways to pay



Please note you will also receive this invoice via email with additional membership information.

Note to customer

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

The Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities allocates 35% of its dues to use for direct lobbying. Under federal law, this portion of your dues is not deductible for income tax purposes.

Please email cifa@cifanet.org to set up ACH or EFT.

Please make checks payable to the
"Council of Infrastructure Financing
Authorities" and mail to:
10 Executive Drive, Suite 205
Farmington, CT 06032

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5564 F DWGB

[View and pay](#)