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Over the past few decades, many communities in the United States have enjoyed adequate water supply and wastewater infrastructure. However, we can no longer rely on “business as usual.” This issue of IMPACT addresses current infrastructure needs ranging from no infrastructure to aging infrastructure – and the associated funding shortfalls. Today’s infrastructure challenges demand a new vision among water professionals, including a willingness to reexamine past presumptions about our infrastructure systems (such as presumptions about the adequacy of ground water supplies and storm water systems) and to develop creative, collaborative, broad-based solutions.

4 INTRODUCTION – Water Infrastructure: Coming Home to Roost ... Michelle Henrie

5 Support for Indian Rural Water Systems Runs Dry ... Christina Steinhoff
Both the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Congress have failed to support rural water projects benefiting Indian communities in need of water. The status of several such projects is described. It also observes that the ability to use tribal water rights is as important as obtaining the water rights in the first place.

8 Science Drives Albuquerque’s Shift to Sustainable Supplies ... John M. Stomp III and Michael J. Bitner
Describes how the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority developed and is now implementing a new drinking water system for a metropolitan area. The project illustrates how surface and ground water resources can be conjunctively managed to allow better sustainability and environmental protections, while also assuring a reliable water supply.

11 Envisioning Leadership: Articulating a Vision for the Water Industry ... John (Woody) Wodraska
With increasing scarcity of and growing competition for sustainable supplies of water, water policy and decision makers must recognize that the paradigms for decision making in the allocation of water resources have changed. Discusses some of these changes, including issues one faces when dealing with diverse stakeholders.

14 Supporting Water Supply and Distribution: Closing the “Needs Gap” ... The Honorable Martin J. Chavéz
The Co-Chair of the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) Urban Water Council addresses the nationwide concern among local leaders about the gap between available funding and infrastructure needs. Describes tools used by local governments to help narrow the gap, discusses the USCM’s policy on this issue, and calls for better cooperation from the federal government.

17 The Green Infrastructure Action Strategy ... Michelle Henrie
“Green Infrastructure” techniques aimed to better infiltrate storm water into the ground rather than channeling storm water into runoff. Describes the background of the green infrastructure action strategy that has been developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and others. Identifies seven key objectives and describes how to get involved in developing, enabling, and implementing green infrastructure techniques in new development and redevelopment.