



May 19, 2014

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Senate Committee on Environment
and Public Works

Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman, House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure

The Honorable David Vitter
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on
Environment and Public Works

Honorable Nick Rahall
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Transportation, and Infrastructure

Dear Senators and Representatives,

On behalf of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Association of State Dam Safety Officials, the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, and the United States Society of Dams, we appreciate and support your inclusion of a Levee Safety Initiative in Conference Report on H.R. 3080, Water Resources reform and Development Act of 2014.

Each of our organizations has public safety as an integral mission and applaud the Initiative which represents a significant coordinated nation-wide effort to identify and reduce flood risk, especially challenges associated with levees. Levee safety is a needed investment and deserves priority focus within national infrastructure needs. The Levee Safety Initiative is an important step in moving the country away from a reactive, disaster assistance environment to a less costly, proactive, safety-oriented culture where the general public and governments are informed and participate in effective risk management.

We are looking forward to successful passage of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act. As the first major water resources legislation since 2007, this legislation presents important opportunities to support nonfederal efforts to reduce the costs of future flood disasters. If we can provide any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

RANDALL S. OVER, P.E., F.ASCE
President
American Society of Civil Engineers

LORI C. SPRAGENS
Executive Director
Association of State Dam Safety Officials

DUSTY WILLIAMS, R.C.E
NAFSMA President
National Association of Flood and
Stormwater Management Agencies

KEITH A. FERGUSON, P.E., D.WRE
President, United States Society on Dams
On behalf of non-federal members of USSD