



December 7, 2016

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bob Gibbs
Chairman
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Shuster and Gibbs and Ranking Members DeFazio and Napolitano:

Oh behalf of the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA), which represents more than 40,000 dues-paying corn farmers nationwide, we thank you for your leadership and commitment to returning the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA), which was included in the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, to a biennial process.

America's corn farmers need a reliable inland waterways system to effectively and efficiently get their products to market. A modern inland waterway system is critical to American agriculture and to the nation's economy. Every year, more than 1 billion tons of domestic commerce, valued at more than \$300 billion, travels through our lock and dam system. In addition, each year more than 1 billion bushels of grain—roughly 60 percent of all grain exports—move to markets via the inland waterways.

We encourage the House to pass this legislation in regular order so that farmers can rely on our inland waterways system to keep us competitive in foreign markets. NCGA offers its full support of WIIN, and urges its final approval.

Sincerely,

Wesley Spurlock
President
National Corn Growers Association

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