



Hon. Dave McCurdy  
President & CEO

May 19, 2014

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
Chairman, Senate Committee on  
Environment and Public Works  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Vitter  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on  
Environmental and Public Works  
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster  
Chairman, House Committee on  
Transportation and Infrastructure  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nick Rahall  
Ranking Member, House Committee on  
Transportation and Infrastructure  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Boxer, Chairman Shuster, and Ranking Members Vitter and Rahall:

The American Gas Association (AGA) commends your bipartisan leadership in bringing to closure the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA) Conference. AGA represents more than 200 local energy companies that deliver clean natural gas throughout the United States, and it is on their behalf that I write to urge swift adoption of the Conference Report by the House and Senate.

In particular, I would like to applaud the conferees for including within the final Report the following AGA priority issue:

**Section 1006, Expediting the Evaluation and Processing of Permits.** The provision provides the U.S. Corps of Engineers with permanent authority to enter cost-recovery agreements with non-federal government entities, electric utilities and U.S. natural gas companies for the review of permit applications. The availability of mutually agreeable, fair and practical cost recovery agreements with the Corps will provide a more transparent, timely and predictable review of permit applications and further the effort to safely, reliably and affordably serve energy customers.

On behalf of natural gas utilities from around the country, AGA thanks you for your leadership. We urge all members of the House and Senate to vote **in support** of the WRRDA 2014 Conference Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dave McCurdy'.