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The Honorable Bill Shuster Chairman House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure United States House of Representatives 2079 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio Ranking Member House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure United States House of Representatives 2134 Rayburn Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster and Ranking Member DeFazio

The National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) writes to express support for H.R. 8, The Water Resources Development Act of 2018. As you are aware, NSSGA strongly supports infrastructure investment and H.R. 8 is a constructive investment in our nation's ports, dams, locks and other key water infrastructure projects. While greater investment in our overall infrastructure is needed, this \$2.7 billion is a positive first step toward making a critical investment.

NSSGA is the world's largest trade association by product volume and represents the aggregates industry. There are 10,000 aggregates operations across the United States that produce the crushed stone, sand and gravel needed for nearly every construction and public works project. These sites are located in every state and nearly every congressional district. It is an industry that directly employs over 100,000 people, and each of whom indirectly support an additional 4.87 jobs throughout the economy. More than 70 percent of NSSGA members are small businesses. A significant minority of our members barge or ship material, making water infrastructure an essential part of doing business.

NSSGA commends the committee for creating a bipartisan bill to maintain and strengthen America's vital water infrastructure. As both supplier of materials for water infrastructure projects and a user of the system, NSSGA supports quick passage of H.R. 8.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Johnson NSSGA President and CEO