

May 19, 2014

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

Dear Chairman Shuster,

The National Utility Contractors Association, representing utility and excavation contractors nationwide, is pleased to support the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) Conference Report. This legislation takes meaningful steps to improve America's water resources, ports, and water navigation systems.

As the construction industry struggles to recover, WRRDA makes meaningful reforms that will help the infrastructure construction industry by accelerating project approval, streamlining environmental reviews, and cutting bureaucratic red tape. By increasing flexibility for public private partnerships in water infrastructure, WRRDA allows non-federal interests to contribute to project studies and authorizations which will help them move more quickly and ease the financial burden. The meaningful reforms in WRRDA will help water resources projects vetting, approval and construction.

Additionally, we are proud the Conference Committee heeded NUCA's recommendation to include the Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA) in the final bill. The five-year pilot program will provide an additional tool for states and municipalities to build, repair, and replace their water infrastructure systems, and will make a meaningful difference in America's infrastructure deficit. We also fully support the Conference committee's reforms to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, believing the greater flexibility afforded in the bill will greatly assist the quality of America's water systems.

NUCA would like to thank you for your hard work on WRRDA, and is ready and willing to assist you in advancing this legislation to President Obama's desk. Please feel free to reach out to NUCA Government Relations Manager, Will Brown with any questions or assistance.

Sincerely,



Bill Hillman
CEO