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December 6, 2024

The Honorable Tom Carper, Chair The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito, Ranking Member U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Sam Graves, Chair The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure 2165 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-6256

Dear Chairmen Carper and Graves, and Ranking Members Capito and Larsen:

Thank you for your diligent work on S.4367, the *Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA)*. The Interstate Council on Water Policy (ICWP) applauds the commitment shown by both the House and the Senate to prioritize its development. We strongly encourage expedited passage of the bill and enactment before the end of the 118th Congress.

The text of the final WRDA 2024 conference agreement bill incorporates important provisions from the Senate's bill that direct analysis of US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Project Partnership Agreements (PPAs). PPAs have a consequential bearing on the extent to which non-Federal partners can be active equals on USACE-partnered projects. These PPA evaluation provisions will set in motion potential reform of structural barriers for non-Federal partners currently presented by USACE PPA requirements as they relate to indemnification and operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation (OMRR&R).

Thank you for your commitment to bipartisan cooperation and your monumental efforts to include these provisions to facilitate a more equitable approach to water resource project implementation.

Sincerely,

Beth Callaway

