



December 5, 2024

The Honorable Chairman Tom Carper  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment & Public Works  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sam Graves  
Chairman  
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rick Larsen  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act

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

On behalf of the Southwestern Power Resources Association (SPRA) and Southwest Missouri Water (SWMO), we write to express our support for the final agreement for the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act. We are particularly happy with the inclusion of Section 1322 relating to Stockton Lake in Missouri.

As you know, Stockton Lake is a critical resource for federal hydropower generation and Missouri's water supply. Balancing these uses can be challenging, as they rely on the same reservoir storage space. The final WRDA language strikes that balance, directing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reallocate the necessary water supply storage for Southwest Missouri in two phases, allowing about half the storage to continue to be used for hydropower while enabling rural water providers to defer payments for unused storage until the required distribution infrastructure can be constructed. While it provides a water source to help meet future drinking water demands and drought resilience, it also will serve as a huge economic driver, estimated to create thousands of jobs and to inject nearly a billion dollars into the Missouri economy. This compromise addresses the needs of all Missourians through an alliance of two essential organizations working constructively to recast challenge as opportunity.

We thank you for your tireless work on this important legislation. We eagerly anticipate its enactment and its role in ensuring our nation's water supplies balance the needs of all stakeholders, playing an essential role in our nation's future.

Sincerely,

Nicki Fuller  
Executive Director  
SPRA

Roddy Rogers  
Executive Director  
SWMO Water