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May 19, 2014

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Republican Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

## EXPRESSING AED'S SUPPORT FOR THE WATER RESOURCES REFORM & DEVELOPMENT ACT

Dear Speaker Boehner, Majority Leader Reid, and Leaders Pelosi and McConnell:

I am writing on behalf of Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) to express our organization's strong support for the Water Resources Reform & Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014. AED is the trade association representing distributors of construction, mining, energy, forestry, industrial, and agricultural equipment. A state-by-state listing of AED members is available at [www.aedauthorized.com](http://www.aedauthorized.com).

WRRDA will create jobs, spur economic growth, and support our nation's competitiveness. A 2012 AED-commissioned study by researchers at the College of William & Mary ([http://www.aednet.org/government/pdf-2012/infrastructure\\_report.pdf](http://www.aednet.org/government/pdf-2012/infrastructure_report.pdf)) underscores the broad benefits of the bill.

The report found that every one dollar invested in "conservation and development structures," including non-power dams, dikes, levees, locks and lock gates, breakwater and jetty systems, irrigation projects, fish hatcheries, wetlands and non-irrigation-related dredging, leads to \$10.59 in economic output (GDP) over a twenty-year period. Additionally, the AED study found that for every one dollar spent on "conservation and development structures" during the same twenty-year time frame would generate \$3.18 in tax revenues, including \$2.12 for the federal government and \$1.06 for state and local entities.

The impact of infrastructure investment is felt well beyond the construction industry. The William & Mary research team determined each dollar spent on infrastructure generates roughly \$.35 in indirect economic activity for manufacturers, \$.20 for professional and business services providers, and \$.10 for the finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing sector. Sectors ranging from agriculture to entertainment to retail also benefit. Put simply, improving our nation's water resources infrastructure is a solid investment for America.

The Army Corp of Engineers program reforms contained in WRRDA will accelerate project delivery through streamlining and will fundamentally change the way that the Corp conducts business by consolidating studies and removing duplicative reviews. The establishment of a Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (WIFIA) pilot program will leverage local resources and private capital to provide additional

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water infrastructure investment. Importantly, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) reforms provide important improvements and ensure Congress' commitment to this important program.

WRRDA provides key programmatic reforms and much-needed investments in a fiscally responsible manner. AED strongly supports WRRDA and will be key voting final passage when it receives floor consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian P. McGuire".

Brian P. McGuire  
President & CEO