

June 25, 2024

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

The Portland Cement Association (PCA), which represents the majority of America's cement manufacturers, applauds the bipartisan introduction of the Water Resources Development Act of 2024. Passage of this legislation is a priority for PCA members as we not only provide a building material critical to the construction of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) infrastructure but also rely on the inland waterways system and our nation's ports to efficiently move our product to market.

Cement is the primary ingredient in concrete is critical to building a range of different Corps projects from locks and dams to flood control and storm risk reduction. For every billion spent on water construction approximately 211,000 metric tons of cement will be consumed.

Additionally, our nation's waterways play a critical role in the movement of cement from manufacturing plants to market. Annually, 35 percent of cement shipped in the United States from manufacturing plants to terminals is by barge, demonstrating these systems are vital for American commerce.

Passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 is essential to continuing the two-year cycle of passing legislation to authorize and advance studies of potential new Corps projects and advancing new Corps construction projects that help communities across the country with restoration, flood risk management, ecosystem restoration, and hurricane and storm risk reduction. We applaud the authorization of 159 feasibility studies for locally proposed projects. Additionally, we applaud the authorization of 12 construction projects that address the needs of communities throughout the nation.

Again, thank you for your continued leadership in advancing critical water infrastructure legislation. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at soneill@cement.org.

Sincerely,



Sean O'Neill
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs
Portland Cement Association