



May 19, 2014

The Honorable Bill Shuster, Chairman  
The Honorable Nick Rahall, Ranking Minority Member  
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster and Ranking Minority Member Rahall:

We appreciate your efforts to get the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) Conference Report ready for passage in the very new future. We also support efforts to place WRRDA on a two-year legislative cycle. This commitment is important to ensuring our nation's water resource and infrastructure projects, especially those whose completion narrowly missed inclusion in the 2014 bill, are completed in a timely and cost effective manner.

This WRRDA Conference Report contains projects that are critical to Everglades restoration and the entire nation. America's Everglades is a sound investment. A recent economic study that showed that, for every dollar spent on Everglades restoration, four dollars went to the general economy. Florida's coastal estuaries are in crisis. A major Everglades project, the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP), which would alleviate impacts to the estuaries while restoring America's River of Grass, is expected to have a final Chief's Report this summer. We look forward to working with you to advance that project to protect our environment and economy.

We thank you again for your efforts, and we support passage of the WRRDA Conference Report.

Sincerely,

  
Eric Eikenberg,  
Chief Executive Officer