



ASSOCIATION OF
EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS

AGRICULTURE
CONSTRUCTION
FORESTRY
MINING
UTILITY

September 13, 2013

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman, House Committee on
Transportation and Infrastructure
2209 Rayburn HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bob Gibbs
Chairman, House Subcommittee on Water
Resources and Environment
Room 329, Cannon HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nick Rahall
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Transportation and Infrastructure
2307 Rayburn HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Timothy Bishop
Ranking Member, House Subcommittee
Water Resources and Environment
Room 306, Cannon HOB
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster;

Developing and maintaining our nation's water infrastructure is vital to U.S. domestic and international commerce. The bipartisan Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2013 will reform how America funds and selects critical water infrastructure projects. This fiscally responsible plan fully offsets new authorizations by deauthorizing old and outdated projects as well as streamlines environmental reviews and permitting. Additionally, the plan improves U.S. competitiveness by authorizing needed investment in America's ports and expands eligibility for non-federal interests to contribute funds to expedite the evaluation and processing of permits.

U.S. manufacturers and farmers are heavily reliant on a safe and efficient water infrastructure network. Whether it is moving grain from America's heartland, or exporting excavators through one of America's seaports, the water infrastructure we use has a direct impact on our ability to transport the goods we produce. AEM looks forward to working with the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure as the committee moves forward with the legislation. Enacting the Water Resources Reform and Development Act is a top priority for our industry and AEM will play a central role in advocating for this bipartisan and fundamental piece of legislation to get America's water infrastructure back on track.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Slater
President
Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)

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