

September 13, 2013

Chairman Bill Shuster
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster,

The National Utility Contractors Association, representing utility and excavation contractors nationwide, is pleased to support the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA). This legislation takes meaningful steps to improve America's water resources, ports, and water navigation systems.

As the construction industry struggles to recover, WRRDA makes meaningful reforms that will help the infrastructure construction industry by accelerating project approval, streamlining environmental reviews, and cutting bureaucratic red tape. By increasing flexibility for public private partnerships in water infrastructure, WRRDA allows non-federal interests to contribute to project studies and authorizations which will help them move more quickly and ease the financial burden. The meaningful reforms in WRRDA will help water resources projects vetting, approval and construction.

While NUCA supports WRRDA, we remain committed to finding innovative financing to improve America's water infrastructure. The need for water infrastructure repair, replacement and expansion continues to grow as is undisputed. To this end, NUCA believes WRRDA missed an opportunity to approve innovative and fiscally responsible financing mechanisms that will not only improve America's water infrastructure, but also create economic development and growth. NUCA remains committed to working with the committee to find solutions to America's infrastructure challenges.

NUCA would like to thank you for introducing WRRDA, and is ready and willing to assist you in advancing this legislation through the committee, floor, and in collaboration with the Senate. Please feel free to reach out to NUCA Government Relations Manager, Will Brown with any questions or assistance.

Sincerely,

Bill Hillman
CEO