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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

RYAN JACKSON, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
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Dear Colleague:

The Committee on Environment and Public Works intends to begin its work on the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). WRDA is the authorizing legislation for the programs and projects of the civil works program of the Army Corps of Engineers. As we begin this process, we would like to know your water resources priorities.

Water resources projects typically included in WRDA include those with completed Chief of Engineers reports, modifications to existing Corps of Engineers' projects, study authorizations for new projects, and miscellaneous projects consistent with the Corps' programs that also demonstrate a Federal interest. Projects authorized under WRDA are subject to cost-sharing defined in statute.

Please note that we do not intend to include in the bill congressionally directed spending, as that term is defined in Senate Rule XLIV, Congressionally Directed Spending and Related Items. If your comments reference construction of a specific project, please include an identification of the report of the Chief of Engineers, General Reevaluation Report, Post-Authorization Change Report, or other documentation that shows that the Corps of Engineers has reviewed the project. Also please note that under section 7001 of WRRDA 2014, the Corps is directed to submit to Congress with the President's budget request each year a list of feasibility reports, proposed feasibility studies, and proposed modifications that are related to the missions and authorizations of the Corps of Engineers, require specific congressional authorization, have not been previously authorized, and could be carried out by the Corps of Engineers.

For your convenience, the list of recommended Corps of Engineers projects with completed Chief's Reports is attached. Also attached is the latest copy of the Corps of Engineers *Report to Congress on Future Water Resource Projects*, dated February 2015 identifying completed feasibility reports, proposed feasibility studies, and proposed modifications to authorized projects or studies. To provide the Committee with specific priorities, please submit a letter listing your comments about the recommended Corps of Engineers projects. You may also include such additional information as you consider appropriate to aid the Committee in the consideration of your comments. Only comments accompanied by a signed letter will be considered by the Committee.

Your signed letter should be submitted electronically, in one email to Joe_Brown@epw.senate.gov and on paper to the Committee majority and minority offices located in Dirksen 410 and 456, respectively, by 5:00 pm on Friday, February 12, 2016. Additionally, we expect to receive an updated *Report to Congress on Future Water Resources Projects* in February 2016. Your office will be able to supplement your comments in response to that updated report. We hope this will provide ample opportunity to discuss water resources and infrastructure needs.


Barbara Boxer
Ranking Member


James M. Inhofe
Chairman