April 22, 2013

The Water Infrastructure Network (WIN), a coalition of the nation’s leading construction, engineering, municipal, conservation, public works, labor and manufacturing organizations, strongly supports your bipartisan work to address the nation’s clean water infrastructure funding crisis. We are extremely encouraged by recent discussions on the development of bipartisan Clean Water Infrastructure Funding legislation. WIN is committed to educating the Members of the 113th Congress on the importance of investing in America’s critical clean water infrastructure and the timeliness of legislation.

The United States is facing a clean water infrastructure funding crisis. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Congressional Budget Office and the Water Infrastructure Network have all placed the shortfall in clean water infrastructure funding at over $400 B for the next two decades. Remarkably, most experts believe that this assessment of required investments in our nation’s clean water infrastructure is probably low. Clean water infrastructure directly impacts the lives of every American and investments in this critical infrastructure are not optional.
Communities in every state and every Congressional District are facing daunting clean water infrastructure funding challenges.

Funding for our nation’s clean water infrastructure has enjoyed broad bipartisan support on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and in Congress over the past four decades. A prime example of this bipartisan support is the $18.6 billion Water Quality Investment Act (H.R. 1262), passed by the House of Representatives during the 111th Congress on a vote of 317-101, with all but three Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee supporting its passage. We are pleased to note your long-standing commitment to Clean Water Infrastructure Funding legislation -- the Water Quality Investment Act was supported in Committee and on the House Floor by Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member Rahall and Congressman Bishop.

Again, thank you for your thoughtful leadership in advancing critical Clean Water Infrastructure Funding legislation. The Water Infrastructure Network is fully committed to working with you to secure broad bipartisan support for Clean Water Infrastructure Funding legislation during the 113th Congress.

Sincerely,

The WIN Executive Committee

American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), American Public Works Association (APWA), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), National Association Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), National Rural Water Association (NRWA), United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters (The United), and the Vinyl Institute (VI)