



Robert C. Lanham, Jr, President
Dan K. Fordice, III, Senior Vice President
Lester C. Snyder, III, Vice President
Jeffrey L. DiStefano, Treasurer
Stephen E. Sandherr, Chief Executive Officer
Jeffrey D. Shoaf, Chief Operating Officer

May 28, 2021

Chairman Peter DeFazio
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support H.R.1915 “The Water Quality Protection and Jobs Act of 2021”

Dear Chairman DeFazio:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) – the leading association in the construction industry representing more than 27,000 firms, including America’s leading general contractors and specialty-contracting firms – thank you for your leadership in developing H.R. 1915, the *Water Quality Protection and Jobs Act of 2021*, which we strongly support.

We are experiencing a water infrastructure funding and finance crisis and failure to invest in this critical infrastructure will only exacerbate the negative economic, environmental, and public health impacts. The Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act is a positive step towards addressing America’s clean water challenges.

The American Society of Civil Engineer’s 2021 Infrastructure Report Card gave our nation’s wastewater infrastructure a grade of “D+”. This bill renews the federal commitment to addressing local water quality challenges by providing federal assistance for the construction, repair, and replacement of the nation’s network of wastewater, stormwater conveyance and treatment facilities. It would also significantly increase the amount of federal assistance made available to states and communities through the successful Clean Water State Revolving Fund program – the primary source of federal assistance for wastewater infrastructure construction.

Passage of this bill will lead to better public health, protect our quality of life and improve wastewater and stormwater systems, helping prevent harmful pollution from entering waterways, protect against waterborne disease and preserve access to recreational opportunities. In addition, it has the potential to create over 900,000 quality construction, engineering and manufacturing jobs over the next five years.

The investments this bill represents will ensure dependable, safe, clean, and resilient water and wastewater infrastructure critical to the economy and wellbeing of all Americans. Again, AGC applauds your efforts and looks forward to working with you as the legislative process continues.

Sincerely,

James V. Christianson
Vice President, Government Relations