



December 9, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Environment and Public Works Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Environment and Public Works Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the Geosynthetic Materials Association (GMA), I am writing to thank you for your leadership in working to reauthorize S. 1811, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020. We respectfully urge you to pass WRDA by the end of the 116th Congress to ensure the continued growth and development of our nation's water resources infrastructure.

GMA and its 75+ member companies wholeheartedly support the passage of WRDA. WRDA ensures improvements are made to our nation's ports, inland waterways, locks, and dams with an emphasis on flood protection and ecosystem restoration. WRDA addresses the critical needs of our water resources infrastructure by prioritizing the study and construction of locally-driven projects in communities across the United States.

Geosynthetics provide cost savings and structural integrity in water resources construction and maintenance. Geosynthetics are utilized in a variety of infrastructure applications, including: preventing waterway erosion and water loss in canals and dikes; coastal protection and restoration projects; expanding and deepening our nation's ports; and protecting groundwater and allowing for safe solid waste storage.

We respectfully request the Senate prioritize the passage of WRDA by the end of the 116th Congress. We must continue the bipartisan tradition of reauthorizing WRDA biennially to prioritize the facilitation of commerce, the promotion of economic growth, and the protection of our environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fred C. Chuck', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Fred C. Chuck, P.E.
GMA, Executive Director
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fcchuck@ifai.com

cc: House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio and Ranking Member Sam Graves; and Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee Chairwoman Grace Napolitano and Ranking Member Bruce Westerman

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