

President – Christine Arbogast Vice President – Kevin Ward Treasurer – Tom Myrum Executive Vice President – Ian Lyle

December 7, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader United States Senate U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-230 Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House United States House of Representatives H-232 U.S. Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Chuck Schumer Minority Leader United States Senate U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-224 Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Minority Leader United States House of Representatives H-204 U.S. Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the members of the National Water Resources Association (NWRA), I write to encourage passage of S.1811 the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020 prior to the conclusion of the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress. Passing WRDA this year is an important step that will benefit our nation's economy, the health of its citizens, and the environment.

The NWRA is a non-partisan, non-profit association that represents state water associations, and both agricultural and municipal water providers. Collectively, NWRA members help provide water and hydropower to more than 50 million Americans throughout the Western and Southeastern United States. Our members work to deliver water and power resources that help our nation flourish.

Many NWRA members are partners on water supply, hydropower, flood damage reduction, and environmental restoration projects with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The NWRA supports the enactment of a water resources bill every two years and supports Congresses work to develop and move forward with the two-year reauthorization schedule.

The NWRA supports many of the provisions included in the legislation with respect to enhancing our nation's water supply, expanding hydropower production, addressing pressing invasive species issues, and ensuring responsible ecosystem management.

We greatly appreciate your leadership and commitment to improving our nation's water infrastructure and look forward to working with you to build on this good work and ensure our members can deliver safe, reliable and affordable water.

Please let us know if we can provide any additional assistance.

Ian Lyle

**Executive Vice President** 

National Water Resources Association