



December 8, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Via Electronic Mail

Re: Enactment of Water Resources Development Act of 2020

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

I write on behalf of the fertilizer industry to express strong support for S. 1811, the *Water Resources Development Act of 2020*. It is critical that this legislation be enacted into law before Congress adjourns.

The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) represents companies that are engaged in all aspects of the fertilizer supply chain in the United States. The fertilizer industry contributes more than \$130 billion annually to the U.S. economy by producing and distributing vital nutrients that nourish crops to meet the global demand for food, fiber, and fuel. Half of crop yields are attributable to fertilizer, hence its importance to farmers and food production.

Waterways are essential for getting plant nutrients to farmers in a timely and efficient manner. In fact, one-third of all fertilizer moves on the inland waterways system. Following harvest, waterways and ports are also vital to move agricultural goods to markets, including export which comprises 20 percent¹ of U.S. farm income.

S. 1811 is a pragmatic and thoughtful bicameral compromise. It includes provisions to accelerate backlog maintenance for our inland navigation projects and ensures revenues from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) are appropriately utilized.

Thank you for your timely attention to this important issue. Please enact the *Water Resources Development Act of 2020*.

Sincerely,

Corey Rosenbusch
President and CEO
The Fertilizer Institute

¹ United States Department of Agriculture [Economic Research Service](#)