

December 7, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) represents construction contractors, manufacturers, and service providers who build and maintain a wide range of underground facilities and transportation infrastructure. Member companies provide the manpower and equipment needed to build, repair, and maintain water and wastewater infrastructure as well as gas distribution, broadband and electric power systems.

NUCA supports the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020, which includes needed resources to improve the infrastructure that supports America's ports, harbors, inland waterways. WRDA would also support flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration projects overseen by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. While NUCA understands the importance of these projects and programs and fully supports passage of this legislation, we encourage Congress to take prompt action to advance legislation to address the hundreds of billions of dollars in needed funding to repair and replace America's dilapidated water and wastewater infrastructure.

Although our underground environmental infrastructure is indispensable to the health of our country, federal spending accounts for only a small percentage of investments in water infrastructure over the past several years. Assessments by the Environmental Protection Agency put national funding needs at approximately a half a trillion dollars – a figure which will only grow as long as necessary improvements are neglected.

NUCA fully supports WRDA, and we look forward to working with you to address the many remaining water infrastructure issues facing our nation. At a time when America continues to face an unprecedented public health crisis, reliable water and wastewater infrastructure is as essential as ever. We look forward to closing the overwhelming funding gap between what is sorely needed and what is invested when the 117th Congress convenes in January.

Regards,



Doug Carlson
Chief Executive Officer