

MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 7, 2023

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Infrastructure Progress A Highlight of President Biden's State-of-the-Union
The State of America's Infrastructure Deserves National Attention

(Fairfax, Va.) – *The chief executive officer of the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA), Doug Carlson, issued the following statement in response to President Joe Biden's February 7, 2023 "State of the Union" address to Congress:*

"President Biden is discussing tonight the importance of infrastructure in shaping America's future. Clean water and sanitary wastewater must be part of America's agenda, and the men and women who build these critical public health systems applaud his Administration for its support."

"However, our projects require a very complex mix of materials, some of which are not domestically manufactured. Our nation's utility construction industry literally digs into fresh American soil to complete our projects, so we support sourcing material from American manufacturers. But a one-size-fit-all solution never fits individual projects like ours. Some components are not made in the United States and must be bought overseas to complete a job. Other materials sourced from foreign sources are significantly cheaper and hold down federal government infrastructure expenditures. On some projects, a delay on a single critical part can delay the entire project, driving up costs and significantly postponing its completion."

"Each project should be covered by a manufacturing standard that fits available project resources and domestic availability--and not encumbered by the Biden Administration's expansion of its own powers."

"America deserves the best infrastructure in the world. Since President Biden signed into law the 2021 core infrastructure bill, critical water, wastewater, broadband, natural gas, and electric projects are now finding federal funding. That's something all Americans can be proud of."

"In the year ahead, Congress must deliver oversight on federal infrastructure resources, and roadblocks such as the Administration's own regulatory excesses must be removed. Other laws

such as domestic sourcing requirements must be implemented in the right way to keep project deadlines intact and federal resources wisely spent. Our industry's members will be on Capitol Hill at our May Washington Summit to check up on the Administration's and Congress's progress on efficiently delivering the resources the President asked for tonight."

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About The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA)

Founded in 1964, the National Utility Contractors Association represents over 2,000 U.S. utility and excavation contractors, manufacturers, and suppliers who provide the materials and workforce to build and maintain our nation's intricate network of water, sewer, gas, telecommunications, and electric infrastructure. NUCA is found online at www.nuca.com, and can be followed on Twitter at **@NUCA_National**. The association's Twitter hashtags are #WeDigAmerica and #NUCAdigs.