

June 30, 2009

Melody C. Barnes
Director
Domestic Policy Council

Mike Connor
Commissioner
Bureau of Reclamation

Nancy Helen Sutley
Chair
Council on Environmental Quality

The undersigned organizations have recently become aware that the Administration may be in the process of developing an Executive Order making significant changes to policy and procedural practices in the area of floodplain management.

Collectively, we represent a large segment of the interested public who are subject to any changes in floodplain management policy and practice, and very much want to participate. We each support the goal of improving the planning, use and regulation of natural resources in order to protect the American people and their treasure from natural hazards and sea level rise. Nevertheless, we are concerned that broad changes may be included in the Executive Order without full consideration of the views of those who are impacted by its provisions.

We request the opportunity to meet with you to share our views on this important subject prior to the promulgation of an Executive Order. Our intention is to offer constructive views that will assist in increasing the effectiveness of this effort.

Sincerely,

Marco Giamberardino
Co-Chair
Water Resources Coalition

Amy W. Larson, Esq.
President
National Waterways Conference

Brian T. Pallasch
Co-Chair
Water Resources Coalition

David Sanford
Director, Navigational Policy and Legislation
American Association of Port Authorities

cc: Mike Boots, CEQ
Terry Breyman, CEQ
The Honorable Barbara Boxer
The Honorable James Inhofe
The Honorable James Oberstar
The Honorable John Mica

About AAPA

Founded in 1912, AAPA today represents 160 of the leading seaport authorities in the United States, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean and more than 300 sustaining and associate members, firms and individuals with an interest in seaports. As a critical link for access to the global marketplace, each year, Western Hemisphere seaports generate trillions of dollars of economic activity, support the employment of millions of people and, in 2008, imported and exported more than 7.8 billion tons of cargo, valued at \$8.6 trillion, including food, clothing, medicine, fuel and building materials, as well as consumer electronics and toys. The volume of cargo shipped by water is expected to dramatically increase by 2020 and the number of passengers traveling through our seaports will continue to grow. To meet these demands, the AAPA and its members are committed to keeping seaports navigable, secure and sustainable.

About NWC

The National Waterways Conference, established in 1960, is the leading national organization to advocate for the enactment of common-sense water resource policies that maximize the economic and environmental value of our inland, coastal and Great Lakes waterways. Conference membership is comprised of the full spectrum of water resources stakeholders, including waterways shippers and carriers, industry and regional associations, port authorities, shipyards, dredging contractors, flood control associations, levee boards, engineering consultants, and state and local governments.

About WRC

The Water Resources Coalition is an organization of groups representing private industry and government who are committed to ensuring that a comprehensive, national water resources policy is developed, implemented, and funded to provide a sustainable, productive economy; a healthy aquatic ecology; and public health and safety.