



June 2, 2011

The Hon. Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Hon. Norms Dicks
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Dicks:

We are writing on behalf of the Water Resources Coalition (WRC) to express our deep concern for the budget for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works program and the Bureau of Reclamation for Fiscal Year 2012 contained in the Chairman's mark of June 1, 2011.

The WRC works to ensure 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.

- **WRC recommends a minimum appropriation of \$5 billion for the Corps of Engineers in FY 12 to reverse the budget trajectory to ensure safe infrastructure and a sound economy.**
- **WRC also recommends an appropriation of \$1.2 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation in FY 12 to create construction jobs, efficient agricultural production, and reliable drinking water supply benefits throughout the west.**

The proposed budget authority of \$4.77 billion for the Corps and \$934 million for the Bureau of Reclamation is inadequate to the task of building and operating a 21st century waterways infrastructure. If enacted, the Corps appropriation would be a reduction of nearly \$90 million from the FY 2011 budget and more than \$600 million below the FY 2010 enacted level. While the Bureau of Reclamation appropriation would be a reduction of nearly \$92 million from the FY 2011 budget.

The Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation continue to suffer from many years of under funding for essential water resources infrastructure systems. If allowed to continue, this trend likely will result in more significant system failures resulting in new Federal expenditure of tens of billions of dollars to rebuild what could have been built more economically in the first instance.

If WRC can be of any assistance to the Committee in improving the fiscal picture for the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Brian Pallasch
Co-Chairman
American Society of Civil Engineers

Marco Giamberardino
Co-Chairman
Associated General Contractors

improve, prevent, save

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