

# NATIONAL WATERWAYS ALLIANCE

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April 26, 2006

The Honorable Bill Frist  
Senate Majority Leader  
416 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Frist:

Eighty one Senators (via three letters) have requested that S. 728, the Water Resources Development Act of 2006 (WRDA), be brought to the Senate floor. Since it has been six years since passage of the last WRDA, millions of citizens throughout America are growing more and more frustrated as they wait for much needed project authorizations, including those projects needed for the protection of New Orleans. S. 728 will also address and provide guidance on a number of policy issues, such as the need to streamline the Corps of Engineers' feasibility study process, provide for sufficient project peer review and refine mitigation requirements to embody sound ecological science.

Because of the time lag, the scope of the bill has grown, giving some pause. But opting out of passage translates into risking our children's future, particularly considering how long it takes projects to be completed. Water resources are the very backbone of our nation's well-being, providing flood control, water supply, power, transportation, recreation, irrigation, industrial cooling and environmental quality. Iraq is a powerful example of what happens when a nation neglects its infrastructure. The United States of America literally cannot afford to go down the same path.

You recently extolled the virtues of inland waterways transportation in relation to Chickamauga lock. We cheered with you as you were able to secure authorization for that project in 2003. Unfortunately, a number of other locks around the country are in the same state of disrepair as Chickamauga, and are still awaiting authorization in a WRDA 2006. We agree that America's transportation system of coastal and inland ports, waterways and Great Lakes is the lifeblood of our economy, but the longer we delay passage of WRDA, the more our nation's competitiveness is at risk.

Senator, both the Secretary of Agriculture and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works have said that the Administration does not oppose a Water Resources Development Act. Please, for the sake of our future, schedule floor time for S. 728.

Sincerely,

- ADM/American River Transportation Co.
- Ag Processing Inc.
- AGC of St. Louis
- Agri-Business Association of Iowa

- Agricultural Retailers Association
- Agriculture Ocean Transportation Coalition
- AGRIServices of Brunswick, LLC
- Agrium
- All American Coop
- Alter Barge Line
- Ameren
- American Association of Port Authorities
- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
- American Farm Bureau Federation
- American Feed Industry Association
- American Land Conservancy
- American Petroleum Institute
- American Public Works Association
- American Shore and Beach Preservation Association
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Soybean Association
- The American Waterways Operators
- Aon Risk Services of Missouri
- Arkansas Waterways Association
- Arkansas Waterways Commission
- The Associated General Contractors of America
- Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association
- B&H Towing, Inc.
- Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans (LA)
- Boaters are Voters
- Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatU.S.)
- Brennan Marine, Inc.
- Brunswick Beaches Consortium (NC)
- Buffalo-Putnam County Port Authority (WV)
- Bunge North America, Inc.
- Bussen Terminal
- Buzzi Unicem USA
- Cahokia Marine Service
- California Coastal Coalition
- California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference
- The Borough of Cape May Point (NJ)
- Cargo Carriers/Cargill
- Cargill Deicing Technology
- Cargill Salt Company
- Carolina Beach, (NC)
- Carpenters District Council of Greater St. Louis & Vicinity
- Caswell Beach (NC)
- Caver and Associates
- Cemex, Inc.
- Cenex Harvest States, Inc.

- Ceres Consulting, L.L.C.
- CF Industries, Inc.
- CH2MHill
- Cherokee Barge & Boat, LLC
- Collins Engineers Inc.
- Columbiana County Port Authority
- Colusa Elevator Company
- Consolidated Blenders, Inc.
- Construction Management Association of America
- Continental Cement Company, Inc.
- C.S. Cox & Associates
- Dairyland Power
- Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corp.
- DeBruce Grain, Inc.
- Determann Industries, Inc.
- Dredging Contractors of America
- Dyno Nobel, Inc.
- Eagle Marine Industries, Inc.
- Economy Boat Store
- Fabick Power Systems
- Farmers Cooperative Elevator Company
- Fire Island Association (NY)
- Florida Inland Navigation District
- Flowers Inc., J. Russell
- Gahagan & Bryant, Inc.
- Garick Corporation
- Garvey Marine, Inc.
- Gateway Arch Riverboats
- Gateway FS, Inc.
- George Obernagel
- Gerald Smith
- Grain & Feed Association of Illinois
- Grain Processing Corporation
- Grampa Woo Excursions
- Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, LLC
- Great River Economic Development Foundation
- Green Bay Farms, L.P.
- Growmark, Inc.
- Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association
- Hampton Roads Maritime Association
- Harber, Inc.
- Harbour Management
- Harbour Village Marina Inc.
- Harmony/Preston Agri Services, Inc.
- Harris County Flood Control District (TX)

- Hawkins Chemical Company, Inc.
- HDR
- Heart of Illinois Regional Port District
- HNTB, Inc.
- Hofmeister Bros.
- Holcim (US) Inc.
- Horner & Shifrin, Inc.
- Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District (CA)
- Humco Marine Products, Inc.
- IEI Barge Services
- Illinois Chamber of Commerce
- Illinois Corn Growers Association
- Illinois Corn Marketing Board
- Illinois Farm Bureau
- Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association
- Illinois River Carriers Association
- Illinois Soybean Association
- Imperial Beach, California
- Independent Liquid Terminals Association
- Indiana Corn Growers Association
- Indiana Soybean Growers Association
- Ingram Barge Lines, Inc.
- Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc.
- International Union of Operating Engineers
- Iowa Corn Growers Association
- Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
- Iowa Renewable Fuels Association
- James Marine, Inc.
- Jeppesen Marine
- Jersey County Grain Company
- Johnson Machine Works
- Johnston Enterprises, Inc.
- W. B. Johnston Grain Company
- Johnston's Port 33, Inc.
- Kansas City Power & Light
- Kaskaskia Regional Port District (IL)
- Kentucky Corn Growers Association
- Kinder Morgan Bulk Terminals, Inc.
- Kindra Lake Towing, L.P.
- Kirby Corporation
- Lake Carriers' Association
- Lakes & Plains Regional Council of Carpenters and Joiners
- Limited Leasing Company
- Linwood Mining & Minerals Corp.
- Long Island Coastal Alliance (NY)

- Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
- Luhr Brothers
- Magnolia Marine Transport Company
- The Borough of Mantoloking (NJ)
- MARC 2000
- The Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay
- Marquette Transportation Company, Inc.
- Marquis, Inc./Terminal Express
- Martin County (FL)
- Massmann Construction Company
- McCallie Marine Service, LLC
- MEMCO Barge Line / AEP River Operations
- Merrill Marine Services
- MFA, Incorporated
- Michigan Corn Growers Association
- Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters
- Midwest Foundation Corporation
- Midwest Industrial Fuels, Inc.
- Midwest Region Laborer's/Employers Cooperative
- Midwest Terminal Warehouse Co.
- Miller, Robert B. & Associates, Inc.
- Minneapolis Grain Exchange
- Minnesota Agri-Growth Council, Inc.
- Minnesota Corn Growers Association
- Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
- Minnesota Grain
- Minnesota Soybean Growers Association
- Mississippi Welders Supply Co, Inc.
- Missouri Ag Industry Council
- Missouri Corn Growers Association
- Missouri Farm Bureau Federation
- Missouri Levee & Drainage District Association
- Missouri Port Authority Association
- Missouri Soybean Association
- Minnesota Crop Retailers Association
- Minnesota Grain & Feed Association
- Mo-Ark Association
- Monsanto
- Morrow Group USA Inc.
- National Association of Wheat Growers
- National Corn Growers Association
- National Grain and Feed Association
- National Grain Trade Council
- National Grange

- National Heavy & Highway Alliance
  - Laborers' International Union of North America
  - International Union of Operating Engineers
  - United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
  - International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers
  - Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association
  - International Brotherhood of Teamsters
  - International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
- The National Industrial Transportation League
- National Marine Manufacturers Association
- National Oilseed Processors Association
- National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association
- National Water Resources Association
- National Waterways Conference, Inc.
- New Madrid County Port Authority
- Norman Brothers, Inc.
- The North American Export Grain Association
- North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association
- Northern Wisconsin Regional Council of Carpenters
- NSA Agencies, Inc.
- Ohio Corn Growers Association
- Ohio Council of Port Authorities
- Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Waterways Branch
- Olympic Marine Company
- Oregon Economic and Community Development Department
- Ortleigh Beach Property Owners Association (NJ)
- Ouachita River Valley Association (AR)
- Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders
- Pacific Northwest Waterways Association
- Pattison Bros. Mississippi River Terminal, Inc.
- Pemiscot County Port Authority (MO)
- Pender Marina Holdings Inc.
- Pennsylvania Boating Association
- Pittsburgh Safe Boating Council
- Pittsburgh Scuba Divers
- Portland Cement Association
- Port of Alsea (OR)
- Port of Astoria (OR)
- Port of Bandon (OR)
- Port of Brookings Harbor (OR)
- Port of Coos Bay (OR)
- Port of Corpus Christi Authority (TX)
- Port of The Dalles (OR)

- Port of Depoe Bay (OR)
- Port of Garibaldi (OR)
- Port of Gold Beach (OR)
- Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority (OH)
- Port of Greenville (MS)
- Port of Ilwaco (WA)
- Port of Memphis (TN)
- Port of Milwaukee (WI)
- Port of Morrow (OR)
- Port of Muskogee (OK)
- Port of Newport (OR)
- Port Orford (OR)
- Port of Portland (OR)
- Port of Redwood City (CA)
- Port of Siuslaw (OR)
- Port of Toledo (OR)
- Port of Umatilla (OR)
- Port of Umpqua (OR)
- Port of Vancouver (WA)
- Port of Victoria (TX)
- Ports of Indiana
- Providence Grain Company
- Quad City Development Group
- Red River Valley Association
- Red Wing Port Authority
- River Barge Excursion Lines, Inc.
- River Docks, Inc.
- River Navigation Coalition
- Riverway Company
- Rosedale-Bolivar County Port Commission (MS)
- St. Louis City Port Authority/Economic Council
- St. Louis Regional Council and Growth Association
- St. Louis Basic Building & Construction Trades Council
- The Salt Institute
- Sargeant Grain Company
- Schutte Lumber Company
- Scott County Farm Bureau
- Seneca Transportation
- Shattuck Grain Company
- Smurfit Stone Container Corporation
- South Atlantic Marine Transportation System Organization
- Southeast Grain & Feed Dealers Association
- Southern Illinois Construction Advancement Program
- Southwestern Power Resources Association
- SSA Marine, Inc.

- Steamship Association of Louisiana
- Stone Oil Distributor, Inc.
- Village of Surfside Beach (TX)
- Tennessee Valley Towing, Inc.
- Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District (LA)
- Texas Grain and Feed Association
- Topsail Island Shore Protection Commission (NC)
- Transportation, Elevator and Grain Merchants Association
- Traylor Bros., Inc.
- Tri-City Regional Port District
- Trinity Marine Products, Inc
- TriOak Foods, Inc
- Tulsa Port of Catoosa
- Twomey Company
- United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America
- United Soybean Board
- Upper Mississippi, Illinois & Missouri Rivers Association
- Upper Mississippi Waterway Association
- Upper River Services
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- U.S. Great Lakes Shipping Association
- Upper Monongahela River Association, Inc.
- Ursa Farmers Cooperative
- Volunteer Barge & Transport, Inc.
- Waterways Council, Inc.
- The Waterways Journal
- Weeks Marine, Inc.
- West Central Illinois Building Construction Trades Council
- Western Kentucky Navigation, Inc.
- West Virginia Public Port Authority
- White River Coalition
- Winona River & Trail
- Wisconsin Agri-Service Association
- Wisconsin Corn Growers Association