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May 6, 2020

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment & Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Environment & Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: *America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020* and the *Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020***

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) – the leading association in the construction industry representing more than 27,000 firms, including America's leading general contractors and specialty-contracting firms – thank you for your bipartisan leadership in developing *America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020* (AWIA) and the *Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020* (DWIA). These bipartisan bills are a positive step forward as Congress works to address our nation's water resources infrastructure and water infrastructure needs. These investments will create jobs, improve the quality of life for all Americans, and help grow our economy now and in the future.

AWIA authorizes approximately \$17 billion in critical water resources projects across the nation. AGC supports provisions in the bill that: accelerate the environmental review and permitting process for projects; extend a pilot program that allows non-federal interests to carry out feasibility studies and projects; improve navigability of the inland waterways; provide the USACE with emergency contracting authority; and increase water storage.

Additionally, AWIA will increase investment in our clean water infrastructure. AGC supports provisions in the bill that: authorize funding for water infrastructure through existing and new programs, such as the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program; provide needed technical assistance to local communities; and improve the resiliency and sustainability of clean water infrastructure.

DWIA authorizes approximately \$2.5 billion to improve our drinking water infrastructure. AGC supports provisions in the bill that reauthorize the Safe Drinking Water Act emergency fund, which provides technical assistance to communities facing critical drinking water needs; authorize funding to combat the threats to public health, resulting from contaminants, such as lead, in drinking water; establish programs to help guarantee the operational sustainability and the resiliency of small and midsize water systems; and create new discretionary grant programs.

AGC urges you to avoid including controversial provisions that could jeopardize the bipartisan support for these bills. AGC looks forward to working with you as the legislative process continues.

Sincerely,

James V. Christianson  
Vice President, Government Relations

**Cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works**