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Ken Kirk

May 27, 2014

The Honorable Ron Wyden
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wyden and Senator Murkowski:

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) is pleased to support S. 1971, *The Nexus of Energy and Water for Sustainability Act of 2014 (NEWS Act)*, which recognizes the important connection between energy and water by creating a committee within the National Science and Technology Committee to coordinate and streamline federal activities related to the management of the energy-water nexus; the notion that all forms of energy production require water and that our use of water requires energy.

In many communities around the country, public wastewater utilities are the single largest consumer of energy due to the vast amount of power needed to move, treat, and reclaim millions of gallons of wastewater every day. This is not only resource intensive, it is expensive for the ratepayers who bear the costs. As such, improving energy efficiency within the wastewater sector is an absolute priority for NACWA's member utilities. Wastewater utilities can also provide recycled water for cooling needs at power plants thereby reducing consumption demands on freshwater sources. By embracing new technologies and cutting-edge practices, clean water utilities have become a vital partner in this country's work to manage our energy and water resources more efficiently, effectively, and affordably.

The energy-water nexus is a central to NACWA's *Water Resources Utility of the Future* campaign, which recognizes the important innovation occurring within the wastewater sector to help communities better manage their clean water needs. NACWA extends its thanks to you for your leadership in this area, and urges all Members of Congress to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Ken Kirk
Executive Director