

June 24, 2016

The Honorable Ron Johnson
United States Senate
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson,

On April 28th the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee reported S.2848, the *Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016* on a near unanimous vote of 19-1 demonstrating that strong bipartisan support exists in the Senate for addressing our nation's water resource infrastructure. We believe it is critically important for the full Senate to consider this bill and urge you to support its consideration and passage.

In addition to authorizing critical U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) projects, this bipartisan package includes common sense reforms to the Clean Water Act (CWA) that save ratepayers millions of dollars, leverage the private marketplace for investments in water infrastructure, and strengthen tools to protect public health.

If enacted, S. 2848 will provide much needed relief to communities struggling to comply with unfunded federal mandates by ensuring clean water investments remain affordable to ratepayers and generate the greatest water quality gains at the lowest cost.

The bipartisan package also includes a range of provisions that address infrastructure investment, health, and safety issues of our drinking water and wastewater systems. Critically important are provisions to help communities struggling to ensure their drinking water supplies are not contaminated with lead. The bill also authorizations important ACOE investments in Wisconsin, including a flood risk management and environmental restoration feasibility study for the Upper Des Plains River system in Wisconsin and Illinois.

Communities in regions across the country from the Great Lakes to the West to the Southeast will directly benefit by enacting S. 2848 – we urge your support and its swift consideration by the full Senate.

Sincerely,

Appleton Utilities
City of Fond du Lac
City of Superior, Environmental Services Division
Kenosha Water Utility

Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
NEW Water
Racine Water and Wastewater Utilities