

## **WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016 – CONGRESSIONAL TALKING POINTS**

1. On behalf of [ utility ], I'm reaching out to you today to discuss the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 (WRDA). This critical pieces of legislation currently being reconciled between the House and Senate offers an important opportunity to make progress on clean water issues.
2. While the House package (HR 5303) focused almost exclusively on authorizing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects, the Senate Bill, S.2848, incorporated a number of important provisions related to the Clean Water Act in Title VII of the bill. I hope you [or if speaking to staffer, your boss] can support including provisions in the Senate's Title VII proposal in the final WRDA package.
3. Provisions contained in Title VII of Senate WRDA package are critical to our community – including common sense reforms to the Clean Water Act (CWA) to address ratepayer affordability challenges through codification of Integrated Planning, revising EPA's affordability guidelines, and enabling communities greater time to meet stringent water quality standards. The legislation also contains authorization for additional investment in wastewater treatment infrastructure, including ideas for generating investment from the private sector, investing in innovation, and help communities deal with extreme weather events. [DESCRIBE HOW THESE MEASURES CAN HELP YOUR COMMUNITY].
4. [IF SPEAKING WITH CONGRESSPERSON]: We respectfully request that you to reach out to House T&I Chairman Bill Shuster and Ranking Member Peter DeFazio to urge them to include Title VII in final WRDA package, and to reach out the House leadership to let them know passage of a final WRDA package is important for your district.
5. [IF SPEAKING WITH STAFF]: We request that you reach out to T&I Committee Staff as well as House leadership staff as you see fit to urge them to include Title VII in a final WRDA package and let them know that passage of a final WRDA package is important to the district.