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February 28, 2013

G. RUFFNER PAGE, JR.
PRESIDENT

Ranking Member Nick J. Rahall II
Rayburn House Office Building, Rm. 2307
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Rahall:

On behalf of the nation's leading manufacturer of ductile iron pipe and fittings, McWane, Inc., I write to commend your re-introduction of the *Invest in American Jobs Act of 2013*. Among other provisions, this important legislation seeks to bring the nation's principal federal-aid clean water infrastructure program in-line with the nation's transportation infrastructure programs by granting a preference for U.S.-manufactured products in projects financed by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

McWane Inc., produces waterworks infrastructure products that comprise the backbone of this nation's water distribution and wastewater treatment systems. The McWane family of companies produces these vital products right here in the United States employing thousands of U.S. workers nationwide in places such as: Oakland, California; Elmira, New York; Tyler, Texas; Coshocton, Ohio; Birmingham, Alabama; Provo, Utah; and Phillipsburg, New Jersey.

While many of our competitors have moved their foundry operations abroad at the expense of American jobs to avoid U.S. environmental and workplace health and safety standards, McWane remains committed to American industry and American workers. McWane invested hundreds of millions of dollars to modernize its U.S. plants and make them safe, efficient, and compliant with U.S. regulations. In doing so, it preserved thousands of well-paying American jobs and the futures of many communities.

The *Invest in American Jobs Act* is an important policy statement that U.S. taxpayer dollars should not be used to reward those companies who have moved their operations, investment dollars, and jobs to foreign countries or to foreign foundries that completely disregard environmental and worker and workplace safety regulations. Rather, taxpayer-financed federal aid programs – particularly those administered by the federal agency charged with protecting the environment – should give a commonsense preference for American manufactured products in infrastructure projects. Such preferences ensure that companies and workers who play by the rules can compete in these taxpayer-financed procurement markets. It is simply the right thing to do.

Passing the *Invest in American Jobs Act* will ensure that this nation's infrastructure procurement policies reflect our environmental and worker safety priorities and laws. The *Invest in American Jobs Act* will also ensure that federal tax dollars are reinvested in American communities, creating American jobs. This is vital legislation that should be enacted now. Thank you for re-introducing this very important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Ruffner Page". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping tail.

G. Ruffner Page
President,
McWane, Inc.