NCA II
www.ncabuild.org
Raymond J. Poupore
Executive Vice President

NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION ALLIANCE II

HEADQUARTERS: 1634 Eye Street NW, Suite 805 • Washington, DC 20006 • 202-239-4779

UNITED BROTHERHOOD of CARPENTERS & JOINERS of AMERICA
Douglas J. McCarron
General President

INTERNATIONAL UNION of OPERATING ENGINEERS
James T. Callahan
General President

February 26, 2013

The Honorable Timothy H. Bishop
306 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Bishop:

The National Construction Alliance II (NCA II) endorses the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2013. The NCA II – a partnership between two of the nation's leading construction unions, the International Union of Operating Engineers and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America – appreciates your hard work on legislation that wisely takes both a short- and long-term approach to meeting the needs of the nation's water infrastructure.

The short-term emphasis of the bill rightly focuses on updating the nation's Clean Water Act-State Revolving Fund (SRF) program, which has languished without a re-authorization for 18 years. Modernizing and enhancing this tried and true program will deliver immediate economic benefits for the nation, driving federal financial assistance through well-established institutions and creating thousands of jobs in the construction sector almost immediately.

The construction sector desperately needs an immediate boost to remedy the highest levels of unemployment in any industrial sector. The unemployment rate in construction is currently over 16%, with nearly one-million construction workers seeking employment. During America's fragile economic recovery, these infrastructure investments are absolutely necessary to deliver direct employment to Carpenters, Operating Engineers, and other construction workers, while simultaneously restoring aggregate demand to the economy.

Secondly, your legislation addresses the nation's long-term needs in water infrastructure by establishing the Clean Water Trust Fund and the Water Pollution Control Investment Act. These innovative financing mechanisms will deliver environmental and economic benefits for future generations, helping to tackle the country's massive wastewater infrastructure deficit, which the American Society of Civil Engineers estimates is $390-billion over the next twenty years.

The National Construction Alliance II supports the Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2013 and looks forward to working with you to enact the legislation into law in this 113th Congress.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Poupore
Executive Vice President

REGIONAL OFFICE: 100 East Corson Street, Suite 230 • Pasadena, CA 91103 • 626-229-9975