



January 20, 2012

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall II  
Ranking Member,  
House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure  
2307 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Rahall:

On behalf of the Municipal Castings Association (MCA) and its member companies, we write to express our support for H.R. 3533, the *Invest in American Jobs Act*. The legislation will bring the nation's principal federal-aid wastewater infrastructure program in line with other federal-aid programs for infrastructure by granting U.S.-produced waterworks products a preference in treatment works projects financed by or funded with federal tax dollars.

When Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), it provided significant funding for states to finance high priority drinking water and waste water infrastructure projects through the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs. In doing so, Congress also mandated – for the first time – a preference for U.S.-produced iron, steel, and manufactured goods used in SRF projects receiving ARRA aid.

The ARRA Buy America requirement worked. It created and preserved American jobs and it did so without delaying the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ability to place all of the ARRA SRF funds under "contract or construction" before February 17, 2010. The plain fact of the matter then, as it is now, was that the ready supply of domestic materials and the availability of commonsense waivers of the preference ensured that EPA's ARRA SRF funding was expeditiously distributed to the states' high priority drinking water and waste water projects.

The U.S. Congress appears to agree on the success of the ARRA SRF Buy American requirement. Since then, it has approved two separate Buy American requirements in bills reauthorizing the SRFs (H.R. 1262, the *Water Quality Investment Act* and H.R. 5320, the *Assistance, Quality, and Affordability Act of 2010* or the "AQUA Act"). For good reason: Giving domestic firms a preference creates jobs. Domestic content requirements maximize the stimulating effect of government spending and work to create jobs here at home rather than abroad. Indeed, a 2009 report from the Alliance for American Manufacturing outlined that roughly 18,000 new jobs would be created for every \$1 billion in new infrastructure spending, and that manufacturing employment gains increase by 33 percent when domestic content is maximized.

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The MCA is a trade association comprised of U.S. manufacturers of iron and steel castings used in water and wastewater infrastructure projects across the United States. The Association's member companies manufacture a significant portion of the castings used in the nation's water and wastewater infrastructure. Indeed, it is domestic companies and workers like MCA's members and their employees for whom Congress included section 1605 of the ARRA – entitled "Buy American" – with the intent of not only preserving U.S. jobs, but fostering their creation as well.

MCA and its member companies listed below urge Congress to pass the *Invest in American Jobs Act*. Invest in America's manufacturing base and ensure that U.S. taxpayer dollars are used to create U.S. taxpayers' jobs.

Sincerely,



PAUL C. ROSENTHAL

Counsel to the Municipal Castings Association

U.S. Foundry & Manufacturing Co.  
Medley, FL

East Jordan Iron Works, Inc.  
East Jordan, MI and Ardmore, OK

Charlotte Pipe & Foundry Company  
Charlotte, NC

Spring City Electrical Manufacturing  
Spring City, PA

Neenah Foundry Company  
Neenah, WI

Deeter Foundry Incorporated  
Lincoln, NE

EBAA Iron, Inc.  
Eastland, TX

D&L Foundry Inc.  
Moses Lake, WA