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December 6, 2016

The Honorable Bill Shuster  
Chairman  
Committee on Transportation and  
Infrastructure  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Transportation and  
Infrastructure  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob Gibbs  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and  
Environment  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Water Resources and  
Environment  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Shuster, Ranking Member DeFazio, Chairman Gibbs, and Ranking Member Napolitano:

Inland Rivers Ports & Terminals Association, Inc. (IRPT) writes to applaud you for your continued support and commitment to the nation's water resources infrastructure. We commend you for your focused attention and strong leadership in advancing the Water Resources Development Act of 2016.

We commend you for several highlights of the WRDA 16 bill. We are pleased to see water resources legislation returning to regular order and addressing water infrastructure needs on a biennial cycle. We support the provision which provides non-federal sponsors a stronger voice in determining the authorization of studies and projects. We are also pleased with Section 122 that establishes a pilot program to carry out projects for the beneficial use of dredged material.

IRPT is a trade association for the nation's inland waterway, ports, and terminal professionals. Our mission is to provide a platform for river port and terminal professionals to improve their businesses and to inform policy makers on the economic impact and infrastructure needs of the inland waterways system.

On behalf of our Members nationwide, IRPT fully supports the passage of WRDA 2016 and we recognize this critical piece of legislation to positively impact the future of freight transportation in this country.

Sincerely,  
Darrow Wenom  
Global Tech Power / Inland Dredge / Rivers In Seine



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