



WATER REUSE®

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October 30, 2018

The Honorable R.D. James
Assistant Secretary of the Army
for Civil Works
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310

Lieutenant General Todd T. Semonite
Commanding General and Chief of Engineers
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20314

Dear Assistant Secretary James and Lieutenant General Semonite:

On behalf of the 250 member agencies of the WateReuse Association, I want to offer our support and congratulations on the passage of P.L. 115-270, America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018. Our member agencies were delighted to work with their Members of Congress on key provisions including Section 2004 encouraging the use of non-potable water recycling to address water demand challenges, particularly for industrial applications, Section 2007, the Innovative Water Technology Grant Program providing \$10 million annually to support investments in innovative water technology, including water reuse or recycling, as well as Section 2013 Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability authorizing \$25 million for investment in resilient and sustainable water infrastructure, including water recycling.

The provision we are most excited about is language we worked closely on with our member agencies and Members of Congress to draft an approach which will strengthen the ties between local Corps of Engineers sponsors and local water management agencies to integrate Corps planning of its projects (Section 1164). We think this provision holds great promise for more local and regional cooperation, resulting in truly multi-purpose, multi-benefit projects, connecting flood damage reduction with stormwater capture and reuse, along with water recycling and aquifer recharge. The American people want efficient, cost-effective government. We believe Section 1164, if implemented properly, can have that result by taking a more holistic look at the needs of a community and shaping projects which provide a range of benefits to a wider group of community members. We believe this section coupled with the new provisions for stakeholder involvement in the development of Implementation Guidance at Section 1105 will help create a more partnered and transparent approach to addressing communities water resources needs.

We look forward to working closely with you in the implementation of Section 1164 and the range of water reuse and recycling provisions in America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.

We will be following up with you to set up a meeting to discuss common goals and our new partnership with the Corps of Engineers.

Thank you and we look forward to it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pat. Sinicropi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Patricia L. Sinicropi, J.D.
Executive Director
WateReuse Association

