

March 14, 2016

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128, U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510
c/o [Ben Hammond](#)

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Vice Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-128, U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510
c/o [Brigid Houton](#)

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy & Water
Development
Senate Committee on Appropriations
SD-142 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
c/o [Hayley Alexander](#)

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy & Water
Development
Senate Committee on Appropriations
SD-188 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
c/o [Christopher Hanson](#)

Chairmen Cochran and Alexander, Vice Chairwoman Mikulski, and Ranking Member Feinstein:

The undersigned navigation stakeholders request that you provide the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) navigation program funding of \$2.8 billion for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017. We appreciate your efforts to increase USACE navigation program funding in your annual Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies (E&W) Appropriations legislation.

Fiscal Year 2016 was a landmark year for USACE navigation program funding. Congress 'Hit the HMT Target,' fully used the Inland Waterway Trust Fund revenues and provided initial funding for Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) donor and energy transfer ports.

Our \$2.8 billion request is an increase of \$185 million above the FY 2016 Omnibus appropriated amount. This level of funding will:

- Fund HMT work at \$1.28 billion, continuing annual funding increases towards the goal of full use of HMT revenues for navigation channel maintenance;
- Fully use increased IWTF revenues on lock construction and major rehabilitations;
- Fund WRRDA-authorized navigation channel improvement projects;
- Increase inland navigation operations and maintenance funding to implement Capital Project Business Model risk based navigation lock maintenance;
- Enable existing USACE navigation planning studies to achieve the three-year completion schedule authorized in WRRDA 2014 and begin new navigation studies; and
- Fund HMT donor and energy transfer ports' work authorized in WRRDA 2014 Section 2106.

We appreciate your leadership in recognizing the nexus between water resources development and economic prosperity. Last year's west coast freight movement disruption vividly shows the adverse economic impacts that can occur when efficient movement and handling of maritime

cargo is lost. We must maintain our navigation channels and inland waterways for safe and efficient freight movement to avoid similar impacts nationwide over the long term.

Federal investments in navigation-related infrastructure are an essential and effective utilization of limited resources, paying dividends through increased trade and international competitiveness, sustainable job creation and more than \$200 billion annually in federal, state and local tax revenues. We would like to work with you and members of the Subcommittee and full Committee to include \$2.8 billion for USACE navigation in the FY 2017 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill that will provide a robust navigation construction program, increased navigation channel availability and navigation lock reliability, along with timely completion of navigation studies to achieve safe and efficient 21st century freight movement.

Sincerely,

Admiral Security Services, Inc.
AEP River Operations
American Association of Port Authorities
American Commercial Lines
American Great Lakes Ports Association
American Petroleum Institute
American Road and Transportation Builders Association
American Waterways Operators
Archer Daniels Midland
Arkansas Oklahoma Port Operators Associations
Arkansas Waterways Commission
Associated Branch Pilots of the Port of New Orleans (Bar Pilots)
Associated Federal Pilots and Docking Masters of Louisiana
Associated Terminals, LLC
Association of Ship Brokers & Agents (USA), Inc.
Belle Chasse Marine Transport, Inc.
Bertel Shipping Company
Biehl & Co., Inc.
Big River Coalition
Bisso Towboat Co., Inc.
Blue Marine Security
Blue Water Shipping Company
Bunge Limited
California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference
Capes Southport Agencies
Celtic International Shipping Agency, LLC.
CGB Enterprises, Inc.

Channel Design Group
Channel Shipyard Companies
CHS Terminal
Consolidated Terminals and Logistics Co.
Cooper Consolidated Stevedoring & Marine Services
Cooper T. Smith Mooring, Co.
Cooper T. Smith Stevedoring
Crescent River Port Pilots Association
Crescent Towing
Dredging Contractors of America
Duffy Maritime Consultants, LLC
Emerald International Corporation
Exxon Mobil Refining & Supply Company
Fillette Green Shipping Services (USA) Corp.
Five Rivers Distribution
Foresight Energy, LLC
GAC Shipping (USA) Inc.
General Maritime Transportation Services, Inc.
General Steamship Corp., Ltd.
Greater New Orleans, Inc.
Gulf Harbor Shipping, LLC
Gulf Inland Marine Services, Inc.
Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association
Gulf Ports Association of the Americas
Hickman-Fulton County Riverport Authority, Inc.
Impala Warehousing (US) LLC
Imtech Marine USA Inc.
Inchcape Shipping Services
Ingram Barge Company

Inland Rivers Ports and Terminals, Inc.
International Freight Forwarders and
Customs Brokers Association of New
Orleans
International Marine Terminals
J.W. Allen & Co., Inc.
Jantran, Inc.
Johnston's Port 33, Inc.
K&C Shipping, Inc.
Lake Carriers Association
Lott Ship Agency, Inc.
Louisiana Maritime Association
Louisiana Maritime International Chamber
of Commerce
Louisiana River Pilots Association
Marathon Petroleum Company LP
Maritime & Commodity Services, LLC
Maritime Endeavors Shipping Co., Ltd.
MaRyan Mining, LLC
Mid-Gulf Shipping Company, Inc.
Mississippi Valley Trade and Transport
Council
Moran Towing Corporation
Moran-Gulf Shipping Agencies, Inc.
Naftilos Shipping Agencies
Natchez Port Authority
National Association of Maritime
Organizations
National Association of Waterfront
Employers
New Orleans – Baton Rouge Steamship
Pilots Association
New Orleans Private Patrol Service, Inc.
New York Shipping Association
Newship (USA), Inc.
Nord-Sud Shipping, Inc.
Norton Lilly International
Offshore Marine Group LLC
Pacific Gulf Marine
Pacific Northwest Waterways Association
Page & Jones, Inc.
Plaquemines Association of Business and
Industry
Port of Greater Baton Rouge
Port of Little Rock
Port of Memphis
Port of Muskogee
Port of New Orleans
Port of Pittsburgh
Port of Plaquemines Harbor & Terminal
District
Port of South Louisiana
Port Ship Service, Inc.
Ports America Louisiana, LLC
Ports Association of Louisiana
Propeller Club of the Port of New Orleans
Radio Holland USA
Raven Energy LLC of Louisiana
Realize America's Maritime Promise
Resolve Marine Group
Riley-Sherman Shipping Agency, Inc.
Russell Marine Group
Seagull Marine, Inc.
Southern United States Trade Association
Southport Agencies, Inc.
Soy Transportation Coalition
St. Bernard Port, Harbor & Terminal District
Stolt Tankers & Terminals
Summit Marine Services, LLC
T. Parker Host, Inc.
Trafigura
Transmarine Navigation Corporation
Tricon Steamship Agency, Inc.
Trinity Shipping, Inc.
Turn Services
U.S. Great Lakes Shipping Association
United States Maritime Alliance
Venice Port Complex
Warren Country Port Commission
Waterways Association of Pittsburgh
Waterways Council, Inc.
Weber Marine, Inc.
Wilhelmsen Ships Service
World Trade Center Mississippi River
Alliance
World Trade Center of New Orleans
ZEN-NOH Grain Corporation