



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

July 14, 2026

**To: Members of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
Committee members' staff assigned to steel and/or water infrastructure issues**

SUPPORT THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2026 (WRDA 2026)

Background: A modern and reliable national waterway transportation system is essential to the health of the American steel industry. All aspects of the steel manufacturing supply chain rely on waterways, seaports, locks and dams for the transportation of raw materials and finished products. Investment in repairs and construction of inland waterways navigation projects through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is necessary for our industry's competitiveness. Additionally, the steel products the industry makes are critical aspects of America's water infrastructure.

Situation: The bipartisan Water Resources Development Act of 2026 (WRDA 2026; S. 4949) will authorize and fund critical Corps projects throughout the country. The bill authorizes the Corps to undertake key projects that are ready for construction as well as new feasibility studies for local water resources infrastructure projects. Doing so will enable the Corps to further invest in improving the operations of American waterways infrastructure, in addition to providing important market opportunities for the use of domestic steel products. WRDA 2026 also reauthorizes the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State Revolving Funds (SRFs) for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure programs, which use American steel products to build and improve public water systems.

Request: This bipartisan legislation would facilitate critical investments in our nation's waterborne transportation system and enhance the economic competitiveness of the domestic steel industry. Please support the WRDA 2026 when it is considered by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee tomorrow. Passing the bill this year will also continue the important Congressional pattern of biennial passage of WRDA legislation, reflecting the widespread support for making consistent water infrastructure investments in the U.S.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin M. Dempsey".

Kevin M. Dempsey
President and CEO