



January 14, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Republican Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

**ACPPA URGES CONGRESS TO MAKE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE
INVESTMENT A TOP PRIORITY**

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leaders Reid, Pelosi, and McConnell:

I am writing to express the concrete pressure pipe industry's strong support for robust investment in our nation's deteriorating water infrastructure and urge Congress to make rebuilding our sewers and drinking water systems a top priority.

Last year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released *The Clean Watersheds Needs Survey 2008* (CWNS). It documents a \$43.4 billion (17 percent) increase in investment needs over the 2004 CWNS report. The EPA estimates that as of January 1, 2008, nationwide capital investment needs for wastewater pollution control are \$298.1 billion. The figure includes \$192.2 billion for publicly-owned wastewater pipes and treatment facilities, \$63.6 billion for combined sewer overflow corrections, and \$42.3 billion for stormwater management.

Our wastewater needs are in addition to the \$334.8 billion investment EPA estimated is necessary to repair and rebuild our nation's drinking water infrastructure in the most recent *Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment* released in 2009.

Investing in water infrastructure will help the nation's economic recovery and reverse stubborn unemployment in the construction industry. In fact, according to a recent study by the Clean Water Council (CWC), an estimated 20,003 to 26,669 jobs can result from a national investment of \$1 billion. These job opportunities are spread across the economy

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with nearly half of the jobs in industries other than water and wastewater construction, demonstrating the broad reach of water infrastructure investment.

The plight of the nation's water infrastructure network grows worse every day. Years of underfunding have taken their toll on one of our land's greatest resources—clean water. The American Society of Civil Engineers gave the nation's drinking water and wastewater infrastructure a D-, the lowest grade of any infrastructure category. The time is long overdue for substantial investment in water infrastructure projects.

ACCPA looks forward to working with you to invest in our nation's water infrastructure to create jobs, grow the economy, protect the environment, and improve the quality of life for all Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard E. Lawhun". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "L".

Richard E. Lawhun, P.E.
President

cc: Members of the House and Senate

ACPPA Member Companies

Ameron International Corporation, Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Atlantic Pipe Corporation, San Juan, PR

Hanson Pressure Pipe, Dallas, TX

Munro Concrete Products, Ltd., Ontario, Canada

Vianini Pipe, Inc., Somerville, NJ