

October 2014

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski, Chairwoman  
The Honorable Richard C. Shelby, Vice Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
S-128, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Harold Rogers, Chairman  
The Honorable Nita M. Lowey, Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 - 1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Mikulski, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairman Rogers, and Ranking Member Lowey:

Thank you for your efforts to increase U.S. Army Corps of Engineers civil works program harbor maintenance funding in your annual Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies (E&W) Appropriations Acts.

The undersigned organizations urge that when you enter into negotiations to complete Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) annual appropriations legislation, you support Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) work funded at a level that will '*Hit the HMT Target*' established in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA 2014) section 2101(b)(1)(A). Additionally, we support allocating FY15 and future years HMT work consistent with WRRDA 2014's allocation authorizations. WRRDA passed with very strong bipartisan support: 412-4 and 91-7 in the House and Senate respectively. In July, the House '*Hit the HMT Target*' in its E&W Appropriations bill through a floor amendment that passed by a 281-137 vote.

Enough HMT revenue is collected each year to meet the nation's annual authorized harbor maintenance needs for harbors of all sizes. Unfortunately, harbors and navigation channels are getting narrower and shallower due to accumulating sediment, dredged material disposal area capacity is declining, and harbor structures such as breakwaters and jetties are deteriorating due to inadequate funding.

The Army Corps of Engineers has reported that nationwide authorized channel depths are available about half of the time, and then only over half of the channel's width. This drives up the cost of U.S. exports and imports, which threatens U.S. economic growth and increases the risk of vessel groundings and associated oil spills. Many U.S. exports compete in a very price-sensitive global market where transportation inefficiencies mean losing business to other countries. Underutilization of HMT revenue threatens the continued operation of small and medium-sized harbors, and some have closed due to inadequate maintenance.

Harbors and navigation channels are a vital part of our nation's transportation infrastructure, and the elimination or reduction in their capacity can have significant impacts on local communities and economies. WRRDA 2014 recognizes both the national need to increase harbor maintenance spending and the local and regional economic impacts of harbors of different sizes and types of commerce.

Full use of HMT is urgently needed for safe and efficient freight transportation and is desired by navigation stakeholders. Congress, through WRRDA 2014, committed to achieve full use of HMT through incremental increases over a ten-year period, with FY15 being the first year. It is vitally important that this commitment be met.

While addressing increased funding is difficult, the United States should not miss opportunities to spur economic growth, improve our global competitiveness and create jobs. We urge you to craft a final FY15 E&W Appropriations bill (or title within an omnibus appropriations bill) that meets WRRDA 2014's FY15 HMT spending target and allocation provisions to maintain the nation's shipping channels, gateways to the global marketplace.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned:

A.C. Providenti  
Admiral Security Services, Inc.  
AEP River Operations  
AGP Grain, Ltd.  
AK Steel  
Agriculture Transportation Coalition  
Alabama State Port Authority  
American Apparel & Footwear Association  
American Association of Port Authorities  
American Great Lakes Ports Association  
American Maritime Officers Service  
American Maritime Officers, AFL-CIO  
American Petroleum Institute  
American Road & Transportation Builders Association  
American Shipbuilding Association  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Steamship Company  
American Waterways Operators  
America's Energy Coast  
Arcelor Mittal Steel  
Archer Daniels Midland  
Arkansas Waterways Commission  
Associated Branch Pilots of the Port of New Orleans (Bar Pilots)  
Associated Federal Pilots and Docking Masters of Louisiana  
Associated General Contractors  
Associated Terminals, LLC  
Association of Maryland Pilots  
Association of Ship Brokers and Agents (USA) Inc.  
BASF  
Baird & Assocs.  
Barwell Agencies (NA), Inc.  
Bay Engineering, Inc.  
Bay Planning Coalition  
Bay Shipbuilding Company  
Beihl & Company, Inc.  
Belle Chasse Marine Transportation, Inc.  
Bellevue Chamber of Commerce  
Bertel Shipping Co.  
Big River Coalition  
Bisso Towboat Co., Inc.  
Blessey Marine Services, Inc.  
Blue Marine Security  
Blue Water Shipping Company  
Brown County Port & Solid Waste Dept.  
Building America's Future  
Bunge Limited  
Celtic International Shipping Agency  
Central Healthcare Services  
CEMEX

CGB Enterprises, Inc.  
CHS Terminal  
Channel Design Group  
CMS Energy  
CN  
CSX Transportation, Toledo Docks  
Calcasieu River Waterway Harbor Safety Committee  
California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference  
Cambridge Marine Construction, Inc.  
Carmeuse Lime, Inc.  
Central Dock Company  
Central Marine Logistics, Inc.  
Chetco (Brookings Harbor), OR  
Chemical Industry Council of Illinois  
Chicago Port Council  
Chornco  
Citgo Petroleum Corporation  
City of Depoe Bay  
City of Petersburg, AK  
City of Rockland, ME  
City of Superior Planning Department  
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.  
Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority, OH  
Connecticut Maritime Coalition  
Collins Engineers, Inc.  
Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association  
Coquille (Bandon), OR  
Complete Logistical Services  
Cooper/T. Smith Stevedoring  
Cooper/T. Smith Mooring Co.  
Corus  
Cottrell Engineering  
Crescent River Port Pilots Association  
Crescent City Democratic Association  
Crescent Towing Co.  
Curry County, OR  
Deloach Marine Services, LLC  
Detroit Edison  
Detroit Lodge No. 7, International Shipmasters' Association  
Detroit Regional Chamber  
Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority - Detroit, MI  
District No. 1-PCD, MEBA, AFL-CIO Dock 63 Inc.  
Dole Terminal at Port of Wilmington, DE  
Dow Chemical  
Dredge America  
Dredging Contractors of America  
Dredging Supply Company, Inc.  
Duffy Maritime Consultants, LLC  
Duluth Seaway Port Authority, MN  
Edw. C. Levy Co.

Economic Alliance Snohomish County  
 Ellicott Dredges  
 Emerald International Corporation  
 Erie Shipbuilding, LLC  
 ExxonMobil Refining & Supply Company  
 Faulkner, Muskovitz & Phillips, LLP  
 Fillette Green Shipping Services Corporation  
 Flats Oxbow Association Fox River Dock Co., Inc.  
 Foresight Energy  
 Fraser Shipyards Freeport LNG Development, LP  
 GAC Shipping, Inc.  
 Gateway Trade Center, Inc.  
 Georgia Ports Authority  
 General Maritime Transportation Services, Inc.  
 General Steamship Corporation  
 Golding Barge  
 Gordley Associates  
 Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal  
 Protection, Restoration and Conservation  
 Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce  
 Grand River Navigation Company, Inc.  
 Great Lakes Metro Chambers Coalition  
 Great Lakes District Council, ILA, AFL-CIO  
 Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Co., LLC  
 Great Lakes Fleet, Inc. / Key Lakes, Inc.  
 Great Lakes Maritime Task Force  
 Greater New Orleans, Inc.  
 Great Lakes Small Harbors Coalition  
 Greater Houston Partnership  
 Greater Houston Port Bureau  
 Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce  
 Gulf Harbor Shipping  
 Gulf Inland Marine Services, Inc.  
 Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association (GICA)  
 Gulf Ports Association of the Americas  
 Gulf South Marine  
 Gulf States Maritime Association (GSMA)  
 Hallett Dock Company  
 Hannah Marine Corporation  
 Harbormaster of Greenwich, CT Harbor and  
 Terminal District  
 Hua Liu  
 ILA - Lake Erie Coal & Ore Dock Council  
 ILA - Local 1317  
 ILA - Local 1768  
 Illinois International Port District  
 Inchcape Shipping Services  
 Ingram Barge  
 Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific  
 Inland Rivers Ports and Terminal, Inc.  
 Intl. Brotherhood of Boilermakers  
 Intl. Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots  
 International Association of Machinists and

Aerospace Workers #157  
 International Freight Forwarders and Customs  
 Brokers Association of New Orleans  
 International Liquid Terminals Association  
 International Marine Terminals  
 International Ship Masters Association  
 International Union of Operating Engineers  
 Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce  
 Jantran, Inc.  
 Jason Yellin  
 Jay Cashman, Inc.  
 Jaxport, FL  
 JE McAmis, Inc.  
 J.W. Allen & Co., Inc.  
 K&C Shipping, Inc.  
 K&L Gates  
 Kinder Morgan Terminals  
 L.W. Matteson  
 Lafarge North America  
 Lake Carriers Association  
 Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District  
 Lake Charles Pilots  
 Lake Michigan Car Ferry Service, Inc.  
 Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation  
 Lakes Pilots Association (Louisiana)  
 LBH USA  
 Louisiana Maritime Association  
 Louisiana Maritime International Chamber of Commerce  
 Lower MS River Waterways Safety Advisory  
 Committee  
 Lorain Port Authority  
 Louisiana Assoc of Business and Industry  
 Louisiana Maritime Association Luedtke  
 Engineering Company MCM Marine, Inc.  
 Maersk Lines LTD  
 Magnolia Fleet  
 Manson Construction  
 Marathon Petroleum Company, LP  
 Marsha Cohen  
 Marine Tech, LLC  
 Maritime Endeavors Shipping Co.  
 Maritime Exchange for Delaware River and Bay  
 Maritime Navigation Safety Association (MNSA)  
 Maryland Port Administration  
 Massachusetts Division of Waterways  
 Massachusetts Port Authority  
 Masterpiece International  
 Matt Friedman  
 Matthew Tucker  
 Max Allman  
 Michigan Maritime Trades Port Council, MTD, AFL-CIO  
 Mid-Gulf Shipping Company, Inc.

Midwest Energy Resources Company	Port of Humboldt Bay, CA
Midwest Terminals of Toledo, International, Inc.	Port of Houston, TX
Mike Hooks Inc.	Port of Ilwaco, WA
Mississippi River Association	Port of Kingston, WA
Mississippi Valley Trade & Transport Council	Port of Little Rock
Mobile Bar Pilots Association	Port of Longview, WA
Moran-Gulf Shipping Agencies, Inc.	Port of Memphis
Naftilos Shipping Agencies	Port of Morgan City
Natchez Port Authority	Port of Muskogee
Myrtle Beach Area Chamber / CVB	Port of New Orleans, LA
National Association of Manufacturers	Port of Newport
National Association of Maritime Organizations	Port of Oakland, CA
National Association of Waterfront Employers	Port of Orange, TX
National Customs Brokers & Forwarders	Port of Palm Beach, FL
Association of America	Port of Pascagoula, MS
National Mining Association	Port of Peninsula, Nahcotta, WA
National Retail Federation	Port of Pittsburgh
National Waterways Conference	Port of Port Angeles, WA
New Orleans Board of Trade	Port of Port Arthur, TX
New Orleans-Baton Rouge Steamship Pilots	Port of Portland, OR
Association	Port of South Louisiana
New Orleans Private Patrol Service	Port of Stockton, CA
Newship USA, Inc.	Port Tampa Bay, FL
New York Shipping Association	The Pearce Group
Nord-Sud Shipping, Inc.	Pere Marquette Shipping Company
Norfolk Dredging	Pickands Mather Lake Services Company, Inc. Pacific
Norfolk Southern Corp (coal docks in Sandusky	Coast Council of Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders
& Ashtabula, OH)	Assns.
Norton Lilly International	Pacific Northwest Waterways Association
North American Port Infrastructure LLC NSA	Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel
Agencies, Inc.	Port Manatee, FL
OAHU EXPRESS, LTD	Port of Astoria, OR
Odom Hydrographic Systems	Port of Coos Bay, OR
Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association	Port of the Dalles
Orion Marine Construction, Inc.	Port of Garibaldi
Orion Marine Group	Port of Gold Beach
Osborne Concrete & Stone Co.	Port of Oswego Authority
Pacific-Gulf Marine, Inc.	Port of San Francisco, CA
Pacific Northwest Waterways Association	Port of Siuslaw, OR
Page & Jones, Inc.	Port of Toledo, OR
Plaquemines Association of Business and Industry	Port of Victoria, TX
Plaquemines Parish	Port Orford, OR
Plaquemines Port, Harbor & Terminal District, LA	Port Ship Service
Plaquemines Parish Council	Ports America
Port Freeport, TX	Ports of Indiana
Port of Albany, NY	Propeller Club of the Port of New Orleans
Port of Chinook, WA	Provincetown Harbormaster
Port of Everett, WA	Radio Holland
Port of Galveston, TX	Ragged Rock Marina, CT
Port of Grays Harbor, WA	Raven Energy LLC of Louisiana
Port of Greater Baton Rouge, LA	R.E. Staite Engineering, Inc.
Port of Harlingen Authority, TX	Resolve Marine Group
Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District, CA	Robert Y Jones & Carter, Inc.

Richard Paget  
Riley-Sherman Shipping Agency  
Rita Foti Rogue (Gold Beach), OR  
River Parishes Company  
Russell Marine Group  
Ryba Marine Construction Co.  
Sargent Companies  
Seafarers International Union  
Seagull Marine, Inc.  
Seattle Chamber of Commerce  
Soo Marine Supply, Inc.  
Southern United States Trade Association  
Southport Agencies, Inc.  
Soy Transportation Council  
St. Bernard Port, Harbor and Terminal District  
St. James Stevedoring Partners LLC  
St. John the Baptist Parish, LA  
St. Lawrence Seaway Pilots Association  
State of Louisiana  
Steele Associates Marine Consultants, LLC  
Summit Marine Services  
The Dutra Group  
The Honorable Helen Bentley (R-MD)  
The Interlake Steamship Company  
The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey  
The Port of Milwaukee, WI  
The Propeller Club Port of New Orleans  
Toledo Port Council, MTD, AFL-CIO  
Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, OH  
Town of Dennis, MA  
Town of Wellfleet, MA  
T. Parker Host, Inc.  
Trafigura  
Transmarine Navigation Corporation  
Transportation Committee of the World Trade Center of the Port of New Orleans  
Transportation Institute  
Tulsa Port of Catoosa  
Tricon Steamship Agency, Inc.  
Trinity Shipping, Inc.  
Turn Services  
United States Great Lakes Shipping Association  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United Rentals  
United States Maritime Alliance  
United Steelworkers, District 1, AFL-CIO-CLC  
United Steelworkers, Local 5000 US Steel Corp.  
Valero Energy Corporation  
Venice Port Coalition  
Venice Port Complex  
Virgin Islands Port Authority  
Warren County Port Commission

Washington Council on International Trade  
Waterways Association of Pittsburgh  
Waterways Council, Inc.  
Weber Marine, Inc.  
Weeks Marine  
Western Great Lakes Pilots Association  
Western Growers Association  
West Creek Capital  
West Gulf Maritime Association  
Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Co.  
Wilhelmsen Ships Service  
Willapa Harbor, WA  
Wirt Stone Docks  
World Trade Center Mississippi River Alliance  
World Trade Center of New Orleans  
World Trade Center New Orleans' International Business Committee  
World Trade Center New Orleans' Transportation Committee  
World Trade Center of New Orleans  
Yankee Mari  
Zen-Noh Grain Corporation

*Updated 1 October 2014*