SATIONAL WATERWAYS ALLIANCE

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LETTER SENT TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SENATE EPW COMMITTEE

February 27, 2004

Senator James M. Inhofe Chairman, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee U.S. Senate 453 Senate Russell Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510-3603

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Attached you will find a copy of a letter, sent to each member of the Committee on the Budget, about the importance of funding the civil works budget of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Over 140 associations and ports, as well as other water resources interests, have come together to express their hope that our vast system of waterways be utilized to maximize the benefits that our country can reap. While we estimate that the Corps needs a minimum of \$5.5 billion in FY2005, we did not choose to ask for that amount. We trust that you will convey to the Committee a recommendation that takes into consideration the positive impact on our country's economy and environment if our waterways system is maintained.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me, or one of our waterway stakeholders listed on the letter.

Sincerely,

(Ms.) Worth Hager President National Waterways Conference Secretariat for the National Waterways Alliance

