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August 2, 2018

The Honorable Pat Roberts Chairman Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry 328A Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Conaway Chairman House Committee on Agriculture 1301 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Debbie Stabenow Ranking Member Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry 192 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Collin C. Peterson Ranking Member House Committee on Agriculture 1301 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Roberts, Ranking Member Stabenow, Chairman Conaway and Ranking Member Peterson:

On behalf of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), which represents over 300 public wastewater and stormwater utilities in nearly every state, we want to thank you for your leadership and work on including several important water quality provisions under the Conservation Title of the recently passed Senate and House 2018 Farm Bills. We ask that these provisions be included in any final bill put forth by the Conference Committee as they will help facilitate partnerships between clean water utilities, farmers, and landowners to leverage limited funds and advance water quality.

As the primary regulated entities addressing clean water, NACWA member agencies have been advocating for the Farm Bill in support of holistic, collaborative and innovative approaches at a watershed-based level that provide measurable environmental and public health improvements, protect water sources, and increase farmer productivity. Clean water utilities are often at the forefront of innovative partnerships with farmers and landowners to better and more cost-effectively meet water quality standards and help reduce the need for future regulation while providing ancillary ecosystem benefits to the watershed.

NACWA appreciates the strong engagement you have had with our association and its members throughout the Farm Bill process thus far to ensure inclusion of these provisions important to the clean water sector. Specifically, NACWA is thankful for the adoption of a Sense of Congress which affirms the value of clean water sector collaboration with farmers to advance efficient and cost-effective clean water practices; improvements to the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP); enhanced

methods for measurement, evaluation, and data collection of conservation practices; a focus on the use of precision agriculture technology and conservation practices; and the prioritization of source water protection.

Thank you again for your hard work and leadership on these important issues. We look forward to continued engagement with you as the Farm Bill process moves forward.

Sincerely,

Adam Krantz

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CEO