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January 13, 2021

Damaris Christensen Oceans, Wetlands, and Communities Division Office of Water (Mail Code 4504-T) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20460

Stacey Jensen
Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
Department of the Army
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0104

Submitted via Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov/

RE: NACWA Public Comment Extension Request for EPA and Army Corps' Revised Definition of "Waters of the United States" Proposed Rulemaking (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0602)

Dear Ms. Christensen and Ms. Jensen:

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) proposed *Revised Definition of "Waters of the United States"* (EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0602) published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, December 7, 2021.

Due to the inherent complexities and detailed nature involved with any Waters of the United States (WOTUS) revision, coupled with EPA and USACE's proposed novel approach this time to redefining the scope of WOTUS, the public clean water community would greatly benefit from additional time to digest this proposal and understand the possible impacts and implications on municipal wastewater and stormwater operations. NACWA is requesting at least an additional thirty (30) days to fully review the proposal and seek member feedback in order to provide the Agencies with meaningful comments.

NACWA represents the interests of more than 340 public clean water utilities and stormwater agencies of all sizes across the country that everyday provide an essential service of managing billions of gallons of the nation's wastewater and stormwater in a manner that ensures the

continued protection of public health and our environment. The additional opportunity to gather specific member feedback is needed, specifically on how and to what degree the Agencies' omission of clear and specific jurisdictional exclusions, like stormwater control features, water recycling structures, and groundwater could ultimately impact future utility operations.

In light of these concerns, NACWA requests the comment period be extended from Monday, February 7, 2022 to Wednesday, March 9, 2022. If you have questions, please contact me by phone at 202/533-1839 or by email at eremmel@nacwa.org.

Respectfully,

Emily Remmel

Director, Regulatory Affairs

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