



December 17, 2008

Ms. Valerie Jarrett
Mr. John Podesta
Mr. Peter Rouse
Co-Chairs, Obama-Biden Transition Project
451 6th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Jarrett and Messrs. Podesta and Rouse:

On behalf of the Water Resources Coalition, congratulations on your key positions in the President-elect's transition. We applaud the very effective way in which the transition is being managed and implemented.

The Water Resources Coalition is composed of a wide variety of organizations working to ensure that a comprehensive, national water resources policy is developed, implemented and funded to provide a sustainable, productive economy; a healthy aquatic ecology; and public health and safety.

We would be pleased to have the opportunity to work with the Agency Review Team and Policy Working Group charged with exploring the country's water resource programs administered by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. Our ports and waterways are an integral part of the nation's transportation system. Flood control, recreation as well as coastal and environmental restoration projects are also critical to reducing hazards, lessening the damages caused by storms, providing millions of Americans with the opportunity to enjoy fishing and other recreational opportunities, and enhancing the nation's environment.

Accompanying this letter is a policy paper to the Transition Team that highlights the need for significant investments in America's water resources infrastructure. It will also emphasize the need for important policy changes in the planning of projects. We believe the members of the

improve, prevent, save
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Coalition can provide a clear and effective voice for the transition teams working on these critical issues and we would be please to have the opportunity to meet with these appointees later this month.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you or the team leaders have any questions, we would be happy to answer them.

Sincerely,



Brian Pallasch
Co-Chairman
American Society of Civil Engineers



Marco Giamberardino
Co-Chairman
The Associated General Contractors of America