April 22, 2021

To: Members of the U.S. Senate
    Senate staff assigned to steel and/or water infrastructure issues

S. 914 – DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2021

Background: Our nation’s drinking water and wastewater treatment infrastructure are in serious need of repair and modernization. The recent American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Infrastructure Report gave the drinking water system a C- grade, while the wastewater system received a D+ grade. The American steel industry is the cleanest and most energy efficient of the leading steel industries in the world and manufactures innovative products that are critical to modernizing U.S. water infrastructure.

Situation: The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed S. 914, the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, by unanimous vote on April 15. This bipartisan legislation would make key water infrastructure investments across the United States, including the reauthorization of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs that fund enhancement and maintenance of our nation’s water infrastructure systems. Specifically, the legislation would provide $30 billion in funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) and $6 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). In doing so, the bill also would ensure that American-made iron and steel products will continue to be procured through the CWSRF and DWSRF programs.

Request: Please vote in support of S. 914, the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, when it is considered by the full Senate soon. This legislation will facilitate critical investments in our nation’s water infrastructure systems. It also will ensure that all steel products procured using taxpayer dollars under the EPA SRF programs are produced in the United States.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Dempsey
President and CEO