



CWCC

Clean Water Construction Coalition  
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ROBERT A. BRIANT, JR.  
Chairman

- AGC of America
- AGC of Texas
- Alabama Utility Contractors Association
- Associated Pennsylvania Constructors
- Associated Utility Contractors Of Maryland \*
- Connecticut Construction Industries Association
- CIC of Westchester County & Hudson Valley \*
- Engineering Contractors Association
- General Contractors Association Of New York
- Indiana Construction Association
- Long Island Contractors Association
- Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association
- Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association
- Minnesota Utility Contractors Association\*
- National Rural Water Association
- Ohio Contractors Association
- Public Works Contractors Association of Maryland
- Southern California Contractors Association
- Tennessee Road Builders Association
- Underground Contractors Association of Illinois \*
- United Contractors \*
- UCA of Anne Arundel County
- Utility Contractors Association of New England \*
- Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey \*
- Contractors Association Of West Virginia
- Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association

\* Steering Committee Member

**November 24, 2015**

## **CONGRESS WORKING TO DRAFT OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

Congress is working to craft an omnibus appropriations measure in order to finalize spending levels for federal fiscal year 2016. This action follows the recent Budget agreement that was completed late last month between Congress and the Obama Administration. Federal agencies are currently operating under a continuing funding resolution that expires on December 11, 2016 and Congress must either pass an omnibus appropriations bill or again move a continuing resolution measure in order to keep the federal government operating.

The new budget deal revises spending totals for federal fiscal 2016 and provides an addition \$50 billion for federal budget while avoiding \$80 billion in mandatory sequestration cuts during federal fiscal 2016 and 2017. An omnibus bill is expected to be released the week of December 7, 2015, however, Republicans have discussed including policy riders in the omnibus legislation while Democrats have promised to stand firm against policy riders. Some of the riders that Republicans are introducing include repeals of recent USEPA rules to a measure blocking the Labor Department's proposed fiduciary rule for financial advisors.

Coalition representatives are vigorously advocating for higher clean water and drinking water funding amounts as well as full funding for the Corps of Engineers programs and other projects under the recently passed Water Resources Development Act. As previously reported, both the U.S. House and Senate proposed funding the Clean Water SRF program at \$1 billion and Safe Drinking Water program at \$750 million, while the Obama Administration has proposed similar funding cuts.

We ask each Coalition member to contact their Congressional delegation members and urge them to fund the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs, at a minimum, at the federal FY 2015 funding levels!

## **COALITION MEMBERS ATTEND MEETING IN CHICAGO WITH OTHER STATE CHAPTERS TO DISCUSS INDUSTRY ISSUES**

On October 22nd and 23rd, several Coalition State Chapters met in Chicago, Illinois with other State utility contractor associations to discuss industry issues and share association management information. The two-day meeting conference was hosted by the Underground Contractors Association of Illinois.

Those chapters participating in the conference include the Alabama Utility Contractors Association, Associated Utility Contractors of Maryland, CIC of Westchester County & Hudson County, Utility and Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey, Ligon & Ligon, Inc., Underground Contractors Association of Illinois, New Mexico Utility Contractors Association, Arizona Utility Contractors Association and the Clean Water Construction Coalition.

The Coalition's legislative representatives from Federal Advocates, Sante and Michael Esposito, provided the group with an update on numerous congressional bills and measures affecting the industry.

## **FEDERAL ADVOCATES REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2015**

Attached with this notice is Federal Advocates November 2015 report.