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Chair Brenda Mallory
Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality
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Advisor Sullivan and Chair Mallory:

The undersigned organizations support the implementation of the Interagency Committee on Water Management and Infrastructure established under the [Flood Level, Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act \(FLOODS Act\)](#). There are more than twenty-four federal agencies and commissions with jurisdiction over water issues. Formal coordination across all stakeholders, including federal and state regulators, local communities, and all segments of industry, and regular engagement are needed to align missions and actions and eliminate the duplication created by multiple interagency bodies. The economic, health, and infrastructure priorities of the American people require specific attention to ensure effective delivery of water services and use of taxpayer dollars.

The following offers key rationale:

- **Elevating Water as a National Priority.** The risks of not tackling water stress are enormous, and it is vital that the United States invests in water security and innovation to prevent many of the challenges that will stem from future threats to water availability, accessibility, and resilience (e.g., drought and water scarcity) at home and abroad. We urge increased, regular, and formal agency coordination, including making water an important element of the national security strategy, trade agreements, other interagency approaches, led by a dedicated role and resources at the White House.
- **Eliminating Duplication.** The FLOODS Act and [executive order 13956](#) make clear that modernizing the interagency process should result in, at the very least, reducing the overlap in missions, while promoting policy sharing and coordination of program implementation.
- **Projecting American Leadership Across the Globe.** Water is a connector across sectors and communities. Water is an entry point to engage our friends

and allies across the world and build consensus when other issues are more challenging.

- **Providing the Foundation for Economic Growth.** Water services are vital to building a thriving economy, creating jobs, supporting high-growth companies, and ensuring quality of life. They help fuel energy, sustain public health, and lay critical groundwork for smart city infrastructure. Coordinated action and investment in first-class water services are essential to improve the competitiveness of the U.S. economy and the investment needs for expanding economic gains.

We suggest convening a national dialogue with our group of broad stakeholders representing businesses, environmental and conservation organizations, state and local governments and others to highlight options and opportunities for the future of water services.

Improving interagency coordination is critical for effective use of the transformational funding for water infrastructure provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, without which, cities, especially small communities, will be unable to afford mandatory multimillion-dollar water and wastewater system upgrades and pipe replacements. Together, we can ensure that communities across America have sustainable, reliable, and resilient supplies of water, enabling them to attract new businesses and grow the economy.

We stand ready to assist you.

Sincerely,

American Chemistry Council
American Council of Engineering Companies
American Society of Civil Engineers
American Water Works Association
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Ecological Restoration Business Association
Essential Minerals Association
Global Water Challenge
International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials
International Desalination and Reuse Association
Interstate Council on Water Policy
Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
National Association for Surface Finishing

National Association of Water Companies
National Mining Association
Rural Community Assistance Partnership
The Nature Conservancy
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Water Partnership
Water Environment Federation
Water Reuse Association
Water Quality Association
Water and Wastewater Equipment Manufacturers Association