



**Western Coalition of Arid States
Water Reuse Association
Family Farm Alliance
National Urban Agriculture Council
Oregon Water Resources Congress
Upper Missouri Water Association**

November 14, 2001

Member - Energy & Water Conference
United States Congress
Washington, D.C. 2051«PostalCode»

Via Facsimile «Fax», Original in Mail

Dear Member,

The Invest in the West Coalition would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the \$115 million funding increase for the Bureau of Reclamation's Water and Related Resources Account (construction) in the 2002 Energy and Water Appropriations report language (107-258) approved November 2.

With this renewed federal commitment to western states' infrastructure, the Bureau will be able to secure and improve facilities that are vital to the agricultural, industrial and recreational heart of the West. The funding will go a long way toward reversing a 36 percent decline in the Bureau's budget over the last ten years, and allow real progress to be made on addressing long-overdue infrastructure needs.

As you know, communities throughout western states are outgrowing the infrastructure necessary to assure a minimum level of urban and agricultural water supply. The Bureau facilities that are so vital to economies of these communities are seriously strained by the demands of rapid population growth and multiplying environmental needs. Many of these facilities are no longer capable of protecting western communities from the effects of inevitable droughts.

Your support for increased funding demonstrates a commitment to the well-being of farmers, cities and towns across the West. Thank you.

In closing, we ask that you consider additional opportunities for investing in the economy of the West and the nation as a whole. The economic stimulus plan currently pending before the Senate is a one such opportunity. Studies have shown that each \$1 billion investment in water

infrastructure creates 40,000 jobs. Please consider the needs of western states as the final stimulus package is negotiated between the Senate and House of Representatives. By strengthening our infrastructure and creating jobs, Congress can strengthen our economy today and well into the 21st century.

Sincerely,

Douglas Karafa, President
Western Coalition of Arid States

Roger Waters, President
National Urban Agriculture Council

G. Wade Miller, Executive Director
WateReuse Association

Anita Winkler , Executive Director
Oregon Water Resources Congress

Craig Smith, Executive Director
Family Farm Alliance

Michael Dwyer, Executive Director
Upper Missouri Water Association