SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO
WEST VIRGINIA

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

November 29, 2021

The Honorable Michael Connor
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works
US Department of the Army
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0108

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor:

I write in regards to supplemental appropriations provided to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works Program in the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)*. As USACE develops spending plans for the funding provided in the IIJA, I request that due consideration be given to funding water resources projects and programs in West Virginia.

Specifically, I encourage USACE to provide funding to initiate the Kanawha River Basin feasibility study to inform potential flood risk management projects in the Basin. This feasibility study is in response to the tragic 2016 flood event in West Virginia, which claimed 23 lives and destroyed more than 1,000 homes. During that event, communities protected by USACE projects were largely spared from flooding while unprotected communities were severely impacted.

I also encourage USACE to provide funding for the state's two regional environmental infrastructure authorities—colloquially referred to as Section 340 and Section 571—that support critical water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in communities with inadequate or nonexistent services.

Finally, I encourage USACE to provide funding for the major rehabilitation projects on the Upper Ohio River, which are integral to waterborne commerce in West Virginia and across the nation.

Thank you for considering these important water resources projects and programs. I look to working with you on our shared goal of improving the nation's water resources infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Shelley Moore Capito

Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works

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