

The logo for ACEC (American Council of Engineering Companies) features the letters "ACEC" in a large, bold, serif font. Above the letters is a thin, curved yellow line. Below the letters, the full name "AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES" is written in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font.

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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ACEC Says House Passage of Landmark Water Infrastructure Bill a “Tremendous Bi-Partisan Achievement”

WASHINGTON—The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) today commended House passage of the new Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA). The Senate is expected to approve the measure later this week.

WRRDA represents the most significant jobs and economic growth initiative to emerge from Congress in 2014, authorizing vital investments to improve the nation’s ports and waterways to advance the flow of commerce, as well as needed upgrades to dams and levees to provide flood protection for homes and businesses.

“At a time when partisan gridlock continues to grip Washington, this landmark bill represents a tremendous bipartisan achievement that will benefit the nation for years to come,” said ACEC President & CEO David A. Raymond. “With its passage, Congress has established a new pathway for working together to promote economic growth and put people to work through needed investments in the nation’s critical infrastructure.”

The new bill includes reforms to accelerate project delivery and innovative financing mechanisms to assist communities with their water needs, including a new Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program to provide low-interest loans and loan guarantees to local governments for water infrastructure projects. The Clean Water Act State Revolving Fund (SRF) is enhanced under the bill to better assist communities with wastewater infrastructure upgrades, and the bill puts needed emphasis on the safety of the nation’s levees.

“Passage of WRRDA will facilitate more efficient project delivery, reduce costs and bring project benefits to the public faster,” Raymond said.

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of America’s engineering industry, representing more than 5,000 independent engineering firms and more than 500,000 professionals throughout the U.S. engaged in the development of America’s transportation, water and energy infrastructure, along with environmental, industrial and other public and private facilities. Founded in 1909, ACEC is a national federation of 51 state and regional organizations.

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