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VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON
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COMMITTEE ON
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510–4605

May 21, 2009

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, Chairman
The Honorable Thad Cochran, Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan, Chairman
The Honorable Robert F. Bennett, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
186 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen, Vice Chairman, and Ranking Members,

As you initiate your efforts to draft the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2010, I respectfully request your consideration of the following projects, listed in no particular order. I make these requests jointly with my colleague, Senator Mark R. Warner, who is conveying these requests under separate cover.

These requests are submitted in accordance with the proper constitutional role that Congress performs in the federal appropriations process. My staff and I have examined these projects for the Commonwealth of Virginia based on two principles: first, they must represent a wise and prudent investment of tax dollars; second, requests for such projects are considered in an open, transparent manner.

Department of Energy

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center's Clean Coal and Renewable Energy R&D Field Station; Washington County, VA; $4,650,000

- Funds will be used for LEED Platinum construction and lab equipment for a Clean Coal and Renewable Energy R&D Field Lab at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center (SWVHEC). SWVHEC is a multi university education facility in the heart of the coal and energy producing region of Virginia. The Lab will be used by multiple research institutions, Oak Ridge National Lab, and energy sector companies for field testing, applied energy research and demonstration projects associated with clean coal technologies, syngas, coal bed methane, carbon capture and sequestration, and energy conservation.

Work at this lab will improve and create efficient, renewable and clean energy resources for Virginia, the nation, and the global market. Coal is the backbone of electricity production in America. Until new sustainable resources are available at affordable prices, the global community must develop clean coal technologies and environmentally compatible mining practices for this vital industry.

Center for Advanced Separation Technologies; Blacksburg, VA; $3,000,000

- The Center for Advanced Separation Technologies (CAST) is a consortium of seven universities with expertise in separations science as applied to energy research. It was established in 2001 to develop advanced technologies that can be used to efficiently produce cleaner fuels in an environmentally acceptable manner and to study the basic sciences and engineering involved. The new technologies developed and the highly skilled personnel produced as a result of its research activities will help the U.S. develop its domestic energy resources and achieve energy independence.

  The advanced technologies to be developed at CAST will help companies minimize the loss of coal during processing, which in turn will help them be more competitive and minimize environmental impacts of mining. Coal is the most important energy resource in Virginia and the coal industry offers high-paying jobs in the fiscally distressed region of Southwest Virginia.

Shenandoah Valley as a National Demonstration Project Achieving 25 Percent Renewable Energy by the Year 2025; Harrisonburg, VA; $750,000

- James Madison University will use these funds to help the citizens of the Shenandoah Valley utilize the programs established by our State and Federal governments to achieve the National goal of 25 percent renewable energy by the year 2025. JMU will lead by example by achieving the 25x25 goal on our campus 10 years ahead of schedule. JMU is proposing a research, development, and implementation program focused on improving environmental sustainability that will serve as a test bed for alternative energy implementation and build a model which can be replicated on a statewide, regional, and national scale. JMU will focus on implementing the goals set forth in the 25x25 Initiative by 2015 and will partner with neighboring localities to expand sustainable energy practices to local communities throughout the Shenandoah Valley.

  Long-term energy security is the central problem facing our society, and one that the President and Virginia's Governor have identified as a top priority. Congress established a national goal of 25% renewable energy by the year 2025. With the support of the 25 x '25 national organization, JMU has the opportunity to lead the Shenandoah Valley as the East Coast demonstration site, reaching the 25% goal well in advance of 2025.

Sustainable Energy Technology Center (SEnTeC); Danville, VA; $3,300,000

- The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research is constructing a Sustainable Energy Technology Center (SEnTeC) in Danville, Virginia to focus on developing an economically viable bio-based industry in Virginia. Funds will be used for operations of the Center including staff, equipment and supplies. SEnTeC will focus on production of fuels and bio-based co-products from plants that are not part of the human food chain, a

process that is not currently profitable. SEnTeC will mine knowledge from much larger sustainable energy programs, primarily those in DOE and USDA, to create a national model for profitable regional production of fuels. SEnTeC efforts will include utilization of enhanced feedstocks, development of a sustainable feedstock industry, pilot-scale production of fuels and bio-based products, business certification, and scale-up. SEnTeC will then transfer this paradigm throughout the United States.

Developing an economically viable bio-based industry can significantly reverse the downturn of the agriculture industry in the region while reducing the nation's and Virginia's dependence on imported energy.

Department of Energy, Office of Science, Nuclear Physics; Newport News, VA; $21,000,000

- The Department of Energy's Office of Science is the largest sponsor of research in the physical sciences, which provides the basis of many other scientific disciplines. It not only operates unique user facilities, it provides support for the university users in biological and life sciences, physics, chemistry, environmental sciences mathematics, computer science, and engineering. The DOE Office of Science Nuclear Physics program funds Jefferson Lab in Newport News, VA. Fully funding the President's budget request for the Office of Science and Nuclear Physics will permit increased utilization of the Department of Energy's world-class facilities, including Jefferson Lab, increasing scientific return on the significant national investments made in these facilities. It will also allow progress toward construction of the 12 GeV continuous electron beam accelerator upgrade at the Thomas Jefferson National Lab to continue as planned.

  Jefferson National Lab is a user facility for scientists worldwide, whose primary mission is to conduct basic research that builds a comprehensive understanding of the atom's nucleus as well as applied research with its free-electron laser and medical imaging programs. As a center for both basic and applied research, the Lab reaches out to help educate the next generation in science and technology.

US Army Corps of Engineers

Vicinity of Willoughby Spit, Norfolk, VA; Norfolk, VA; $243,000

- Jetties at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek currently block natural sand movement which accelerates erosion on beaches of Willoughby Spit (Ocean View) area of Norfolk. Norfolk requested a restart of PED investigations to include a General Reevaluation study.

  Coastal erosion decreases the level of protection against storm damage or severe weather events. There is a great need to identify a cost effective source of sand to provide for the periodic re-nourishment of the Ocean View shoreline and a solution to the starvation of the beaches caused by the interruption of sand movement past the federal channel.

Virginia Beach Hurricane Protection; Virginia Beach, VA; $8,700,000

- The Virginia Beach Hurricane Protection Project, currently under construction, is providing significant storm protection to the resort area of the oceanfront with 4 miles of seawall and an additional 6 miles of berm widening, and two pump stations that take stormwater through pipes into the ocean. Funds will be used to continue beach monitoring activities and to perform the first periodic renourishment of the beach.

  Failing to renourish this beach jeopardizes the prior federal investment made toward this effort, and puts many residential and commercial properties and public facilities at risk from storm damage. The project protects over $3 billion worth of property. This 80 block commercial and residential beachfront from Rudee Inlet to Fort Story is the heart of Virginia Beach's economy, generating over $600 million in annual economic activity generated by tourism from the beach.

Appomattox River, Virginia; Appomattox River (Petersburg & Hopewell), VA; $500,000

- A 10 ft deep navigation channel runs from the river's mouth to the head of its navigable waters. Funds will be used to finalize the supplemental environmental assessment, finalize engineering, obtain environmental permits, and coordinate with the stakeholders and interested parties to ensure readiness of the project when dredging funds are appropriated.

  This project will restore the channel to a navigable waterway to and from the James River. In doing so, it will provide the City of Petersburg and neighboring jurisdictions the ability to improve commercial use of the river and create recreational facilities and amenities that will enhance economic development.

Chowan River Basin, Virginia; Chowan River Basin, VA; $254,000

- The Chowan River is approximately 130 miles long and drains an area of 5,000 square miles in southeastern Virginia and northwestern North Carolina. This reconnaissance study will evaluate the Federal interest in ways to protect the water resources of this highly productive basin with particular emphasis on restoring wetlands and forested buffers lost from erosion and flooding, reducing flood damages throughout the basin, and improving navigation and to determine the Federal interest in conducting a more detailed feasibility study.

  The Chowan River Basin, home to more than 200,000 residents, often suffers from unpredictable and devastating flooding. The City of Franklin and other areas in the basin have suffered record-level flooding five times since 1999.

Norfolk Harbor and Channels (Craney Island Expansion); Norfolk, VA; $28,500,000

- The Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area is a federally-owned containment area for all dredged material in the Hampton Roads harbor. A joint project between the Virginia Port Authority and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Craney Island Eastward Expansion will extend the life of Craney Island as a dredged material placement area and provide land for the construction of a new marine terminal.

Hampton Roads' shipping and ship building industries, as well as the military, rely on Craney Island to handle dredged material resulting from regular maintenance dredging within Norfolk Harbor. These industries represent a large component of the regional economy. Extending the life of Craney Island will ensure the channels in Hampton Roads remain deep, offering an economically efficient, reliable, and safe navigation system. In addition to expanding dredged material capacity, the project will also meet The Port of Virginia's need for expanded cargo capacity.

Based on the Water Resources Development Act of FY2007 authorization language, this funding for the Craney Island Eastward Expansion is a down payment on the 50% federal share of the total cost of this project. The down payment, which is included in the President's budget, will immediately leverage the Commonwealth of Virginia's funding to begin this critically important project. Please see attached report language and FY2007 WRDA bill.

Onancock River Federal Navigation Project; Onancock, VA; $501,000

- Onancock River is located in Accomack County on the bayside of Virginia's Eastern Shore and is a tributary to the Chesapeake Bay. The project is authorized to a depth of 12 feet and a width of 70 feet. Funds would be used for maintenance dredging

The waterways of the Eastern Shore are very important to the local economy as the seafood, recreational fishing, and tourist industries are highly dependant on them. Dredging of the Onancock River navigation channel to ensure that the waterway is navigable is vital to this fiscally stressed region

Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery; Chesapeake Bay, VA; $2,000,000

- The Chesapeake Bay Oyster Restoration program, Sec. 342 of WRDA 2000, is focused on constructing three-dimensional oyster reefs on historic grounds and seeding reefs with the aim of restoring the native oyster populations that have been devastated by disease. Under the federal/state Chesapeake 2000 Agreement, Bay partners are working to achieve a tenfold increase in oysters by 2010 by creating new oyster reefs and seeding with disease-tolerant native oysters. Funding would be used for oyster restoration in the Lynnhaven River, and in accordance with the master plan.

The project has successfully created over 100 acres of new oyster reefs in the Lynnhaven Basin to restore this vital natural resource and improve water quality and its continuance is very important for environmental restoration. This funding will help to build additional oyster reefs within the Lynnhaven estuary, a tributary to the Chesapeake Bay.

Rudee Inlet; Virginia Beach, VA; $1,173,000

- Full funding is necessary to perform critical maintenance dredging of Rudee Inlet, including surveys, engineering, and administration.
  The Rudee Inlet channel and inner harbor is a vital navigation project supporting important defense initiatives. The inlet provides direct ocean access for U.S. Navy SPECWARFARE training and program development. It is also important for commercial fishing and tourism.

James River Deepwater Turning Basin; Richmond, VA; $2,234,000

- In view of the need for a safe turning radius in the James River at the Deepwater Terminal Turning Basin and in view of potential support to the nation as an alternate port supporting the Port of Hampton Roads for national defense, Congress has determined that the benefits exceed the costs of constructing the James River Deepwater Terminal Turning Basin.

  Safety is already a concern at the basin and is being further impacted by significant increased barge traffic as more cargo moves from road to water. These efforts promote clean air initiatives, congestion mitigation (Hamton/Richmond), energy efficiency, and safety of navigation

Four Mile Run Restoration; City of Alexandria and Arlington County, VA; $150,000

- Funds will be used for wildlife habitat and stream restoration in and along the Four Mile Run Stream Corridor that runs between Alexandria and Arlington, Virginia. The identified study goals for the watershed are: 1) restore the historic natural infrastructure; 2) enhance, restore and create aquatic habitat and improve nutrient removal functions; 3) restore natural stream channels and remove fish blockages; 4) reduce incidental flood damages in conjunction with habitat improvement; 5) maintain the authorized level of flood protection provided by the existing USACE project; and 6) determine the need, if any, for additional flood protection on Four Mile Run.

  The Four Mile Run Stream Restoration Project is a joint effort between Alexandria, Arlington County, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Environmental Protection Agency to environmentally restore the Four Mile Run stream corridor. The project is an important piece of regional efforts to improve the quality and health of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. The restoration will also have educational, recreational and economic benefits that improve the life of the surrounding communities.

Grundy Flood Control Project; Grundy, VA; $7,000,000

- The Grundy Flood Control and Redevelopment Project is part of the Levisa and Tug Forks Section 202 projects that is under construction. Funding would be for the continuation of the ongoing project for flood control and redevelopment in the town of Grundy, VA and Buchanan and Dickenson Counties, VA. The funding will enable continuation of the voluntary floodproofing and acquisition and administration of the pedestrian bridge contract and the completion of the implementation of flood warning and emergency evacuation plans in Buchanan and Dickenson Counties.

  Grundy has been subject to repeated flooding since its establishment in the late 1850's. In April 1977, the flood of record caused the death of three people and millions of dollars in damages. The April 1977 flood (approx. a 100-year frequency event in Grundy) damaged an estimated 228 residential and nonresidential structures. Ensuring that the town of Grundy is protected from flooding is integral to the safety of the community and to economic development in the region. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Town of Grundy have worked to fund and create a

13-acre redevelopment area to safely relocate the business district which lies in the flood plain.

AIWW - Bridge Replacement at Deep Creek; Chesapeake, VA; $7,600,000

- This is a federally-owned bridge that was built in 1934 that is now functionally obsolete. The bridge will be replaced with a five-lane, split leaf bascule span bridge that will be owned by the City of Chesapeake. Funding would be used to finalize PED, execute the PCA, initiate utility relocations, and initiate real estate acquisition.

  Replacement of the existing bridge will provide much needed capacity along this busy corridor, thus improving traffic flow and facilitating the movement of people and goods through Chesapeake and the greater Hampton Roads area. In addition, the existing bridge is weight-restricted, requiring emergency vehicles to utilize an alternate route in order to serve the areas on either side of the Bridge. Once replaced, the City will assume the now Federal cost of operating and maintaining the bridge.

Norfolk Harbor and Channels (Deepening); Norfolk, VA; $1,000,000

- Funding would be used for PED investigations on the 45-foot authorized project on the main branch of the Elizabeth River and the 40-foot authorized project into the southern branch of the River. Funding will also be used to update the Navigation Management Plan for the Port of Hampton Roads in light of recent events and current conditions.

  In light of such events as security conditions brough about the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and related port security, growing container traffic into the Port of Hampton Roads, and increased military use and needs of the various channels and anchorages within the port, there exists a great need for this update.

Combined Sewer Overflow Richmond; Richmond, VA; $150,000

- The Richmond Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) project is located in the City along the James River. The City is under special compliance order by the VA Dept. of Environmental Quality to implement a CSO control program in order to comply with the Clean Water Act. The project consists of studies and designs to support the re-evaluation of the City's CSO Long Term Control Plan. Work will include reliability and interface planning for CSO and Dry Weather Flow facilities and the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Satellite facilities. Funding would be used to continue studies and design of CSO separators.

  The City of Richmond has made long-term, substantial efforts to upgrade and expand its wastewater treatment facilities to meet federal clean water mandates. The City's combined system of sanitary and storm sewers does not have an enough capacity to handle storage and treatments of all sewage and storm water during peak flows, typically experienced during heavy rain falls. The EPA mandated Richmond correct the problem and the city has responded by authorizing the combined sewer overflow (CSO) work.

Clinch River Watershed; Tazewell, Russell, Scott, Lee and Wise Counties, VA; $275,000

- The Clinch River Watershed is located within a narrow mountainous valley bounded by Powell Mountain and Clinch Mountain and is at great ecological risk from nearby coal mining. The Watershed is home to numerous federally protected species, and boasts an unparalleled variety of ecosystems. It is likely that the reconnaissance investigation would identify a strong federal interest in pursuing ecosystem restoration. Funding for would enable the initiation of a feasibility study.

  According to the Nature Conservancy, the Clinch River basin is the area of greatest ecological risk of any area in the county. The Clinch River Basin has been designated as the organization's top priority in the nation, because of the great number of federally protected species located there and the diversity of the ecosystem. There is a strong regional interest in restoring the degraded ecosystem.

New River, Claytor Lake, Virginia; New River, Claytor Lake, VA; $300,000

- The funding would be used to initiate the Pre-construction, Engineering and Design phase for the Claytor Lake Ecosystem Restoration project which would restore habitat features, establish emergent, transitional and terrestrial vegetation and enable construction of embayment or wetland features in Claytor Lake in Pulaski County, Virginia.

  The project will restore habitat features, establish emergent, transitional, and terrestrial vegetation and enable construction of embayment or wetland features. The upper portion of Claytor Lake captures entrained sediment loads from the New River. Primarily, in the upper 2 miles of the lake, sedimentation is the greatest along the inside of the relic river meander habitats. This has smothered benthic habitat, reduced water depths, and fisheries habitats. Initial consideration of concepts and project alternatives has included deep water structures, the establishment of emergent, transitional and terrestrial vegetation, and the construction of adjacent embayment or wetland features.

Big Sandy River Watershed; Big Sandy River, VA; $200,000

- This project would allow for a reevaluation study of the Big Sandy River Watershed. Such a study would look at water usage at six reservoirs and look to optimize benefits for flood damage reduction, water supply, water quality, recreation, and environmental sustainability.

  There are regional water supply demands within the region and the need for environmental sustainability and enhancement.

Upper Rappahannock River (Phase II); Rapidan Tributary, VA; $400,000

- The Rappahannock River Basin study area comprises upstream tributaries, including Rapidan River. This feasibility study will evaluate environmental restoration initiatives in upper reaches of the basin. Phase I consisted of removal of Embrey Dam for the passage of anadromous fish.

  Opportunities from the Feasibility Study include creating improved spawning and foraging areas, restoring riparian habitat, and improving water quality.

Chesapeake Bay Submerged Aquatic Vegetation; Chesapeake Bay, VA; $100,000

- This reconnaissance study will evaluate opportunities for restoring submerged aquatic vegetation in the Virginia portion of the bay and determine the Federal interest in conducting a more detailed feasibility study.

  The study area encompasses the Virginia waters of the Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in the United States. This research development initiative intends to better understand the contributions of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) to the restoration efforts of the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem.

Dismal Swamp and Dismal Swamp Canal; Chesapeake, VA; $78,000

- The Dismal Swamp is maintained by fixed weirs across the drainage ditches to restrict the flow of water out of the swamp and inward to Lake Drummond, located in the middle of the Dismal Swamp. The water exiting Lake Drummond through a feeder ditch is used to maintain the level of water in the Dismal Swamp Canal, a portion of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. An investigation of the urban flooding problems in Chesapeake, VA, and its relationship to Corps projects will determine if mitigation measures are feasible to minimize future flood damages, environmental restoration, and other water resource related problems in the vicinity of the Dismal Swamp.

  In September 1999, the remnants of Hurricane Floyd caused significant flooding in the City of Chesapeake when waters from Lake Drummond within the Dismal Swamp overflowed its banks. The public believes that the Corps could have prevented this flooding by diverting the floodwaters. This feasibility study will address these concerns as well as provide opportunities for environmental restoration.

Roanoke River (Upper Basin); Roanoke, VA; $4,735,000

- The project is critical to providing needed flood control in the downtown area of Roanoke. Full funding will allow for the project to proceed on schedule. The project is located on the Roanoke River in Roanoke, VA. The plan includes about 6.2 miles of channel widening along the 10-mile project reach through the City of Roanoke, VA. Channel widening will be accomplished with the construction of a benched channel above the elevation of the average stream flow. Other flood damage reduction features include flood proofing at one location, training walls to prevent floodwater intrusion into low areas along the river, and a flood warning system. Recreation facilities consist of a 9.5 mile recreation trail along the project reach and access and parking areas.

  The need for this project was highlighted by severe flooding in the Roanoke-Salem area in November 1985, the fall of 1992, and September 2004. When completed, the project will provide flood damage reduction to industrial, commercial, and residential property. The project is estimated to reduce average annual flood damages from $5.8 million to $2.7 million.

Belle View/New Alexandria Flood Plain Management Services Program Studies; Fairfax County, VA; $4,000,000

- The Belle View and New Alexandria communities average no more than 2.9 feet above sea level. Built before flood maps and county ordinances were established, the 2,200 residential homes, townhouses and apartments are prone to frequent flooding. An ACOE study evaluated structural alternatives, such as levees and flood walls, and flood proofing alternatives such as raising and modifying structures. A preliminary investigation has been completed and 5% concept-level plans developed. To reduce flood damages throughout the entire study area, it was determined that a floodwall/levee combination, with a pumping station for interior drainage, would be feasible and cost-effective.

  It is anticipated that this project will fully protect thousands of residents of the affected area from flooding up to the revised 100 year flood plain and will further have the benefit of removing the households from the requirement to obtain federal flood insurance. Further, the annualized economic benefits were greater than the annualized project costs, and the benefit to cost ratio exceeded 2 so the project qualifies for a Federal flood project.

Huntington Flood Plain Management Services Program Studies; Fairfax County, VA; $4,000,000

- In June 2006, the Huntington community sustained more than $10 million in economic and property losses during a 100-year flood event. The Corps was extremely helpful in determining the cause of the flooding and identifying a set of short term solutions that will be implemented by the local jurisdictions. A more permanent solution, however, will require more extensive study. The Corps expertise will ensure an appropriate and environmentally sensitive solution is achieved.

  It is anticipated that this project will fully protect thousands of residents of the affected area from flooding up to the revised 100 year flood plain and will further have the benefit of removing the households from the requirement to obtain federal flood insurance. Further, responsibility for the severity of the disaster (and preventing future problems) is a shared one because of the Interstate project, lack of maintenance of the stream channel in the Interstate right-of-way, and failure of FEMA to adjust elevations after working with the Virginia Department of Transportation on the flood plain study for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

Gathright Dam & Lake Moomaw; Bath County, VA; $300,000

- Gathright Dam and Lake Moomaw, a Corps of Engineers facility, presently provides flood control, water quality (low flow augmentation), recreation and trout habitat on the Jackson River. Since the project's inception in 1982, the demographics of the James River Basin have changed considerably. On a periodic basis, the James River Basin incurs drought conditions and, four times since 1999 low flow augmentation flows have been reduced during droughts to preserve conservation storage in Lake Moomaw. Widespread development throughout the basin has added pressure to maintaining/improving the overall environmental quality and recreational opportunities of the basin's water resources. The feasibility study will evaluate Gathright Dam and Lake Moomaw's ability to alleviate the impacted environmental conditions along the river from Gathright Dam to the James River. The Reconnaissance Report, approved on

February 18, 2005 by the Corps' North Atlantic Division office, addressed several problems and concerns articulated by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries including: benthic impairments, low dissolved oxygen concentrations, elevated nutrient levels, and cold and warm water fisheries. When funding is provided, the Project Management Plan will be finalized and a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement will be executed to initiate the investigations into different alternatives for the project area.

The completion of this study is not only crucial to the local environment, the health of the Jackson River and the entire James River Basin, it is also critical for the health of the local economy. If the study is not completed and flow modifications are not made, the VA Department of Environmental Quality would be forced to impose further nutrient limits that are unachievable or prohibitively expensive. There is danger of losing major industry in the region and with it over 1,400 jobs in an area with an unemployment rate already well above the national average. The completion of this study has received support from all stakeholders involved with including DEQ, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Mead Westvaco, local governments and the Norfolk District Army Corps of Engineers.

Richmond Wastewater Treatment Facility Disinfection Project; Richmond, VA; $5,000,000

- Richmond's Wastewater Treatment Facility Disinfection Project will complete a preliminary engineering report and 100% design for a construction project that upgrades primary treatment facilities to provide reliable treatment up to 140 million gallons per day of wet weather flow. The Funds will be used to upgrade solids handling facilities to handle increased solids loading associated with the increased combined sewer wet weather flow treatment. In order to fully implement the water quality benefits of Richmond's combined sewer overflow (CSO) long-term control program, funds must be allocated towards Phase III CSO control improvements under the Special Order Requirement 14 for Wet Weather Flow Treatment at Richmond WWTP.

  Increasing the excess wet weather flow treatment at the treatment plant will reduce pollutant and bacterial discharges into the James River and allow Richmond to continue to meet federal clean water mandates.

Regional Sediment Management, Mathews County, VA; Mathews County, VA; $350,000

- Funds are needed for the Chesapeake Bay/Mathews County, VA project in order to continue efforts in identifying cost effective ways to (1) to gain economic efficiencies for shallow-draft navigation in such a way as to package contracts in order to minimize mobilization and demobilization costs, and (2) to identify shoreline placement sites for dredged material so as to maximize sediment management.

  The purpose of this project will be to construct a sediment budget for the area and to investigate utilizing dredge material from several local/adjacent federal navigation channels to address shoreline conditions along the western shorelines of the Chesapeake Bay. The Benefit-To-Cost ratio for this project is 2.7 to 1, meaning that there is a return to the federal taxpayer of $2.70 for every $1.00 expended. The local project sponsor is

Mathews County, VA which has agreed to provide all items of local cooperation to include applicable cost sharing.

AIWW - Dismal Swamp Canal Route; Chesapeake, VA; $1,311,000

- The Dismal Swamp Canal (DSC) is the oldest operating artificial waterway in the United States. The authorized depth of the canal is 10-ft, however the project is currently maintained at 6-7 ft depths. Several bridges and locks are used along the DSC. Funds could be used to continue to operate the navigational locks and bascule bridges and perform contract administration.

  The Dismal Swamp Canal is the oldest operating artificial waterway in the United States. It is also rich in history and folklore. Visitors and canal navigators travel where famous explorers and presidents have stood. Today, the Dismal Swamp Canal is on the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic Landmark, and is also noted as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.

Lynnhaven River Basin; Virginia Beach, VA; $120,000

- Funding is needed to complete this feasibility study that will lay the groundwork for improvements to restore the Lynnhaven basin water quality. This is a multi-year investigation to improve water quality in a historic and important water source to the Chesapeake Bay. This program would address pollutants in Lynnhaven River, Broad Bay, and Linkhorn Bay Estuary.

  The Lynnhaven River is considered a prime spot for oyster restoration because it is a trap estuary with high salinity, had historically high populations of native oysters, and has considerably higher oyster recruitment today than many other sites in the Chesapeake Bay. Last year, for the first time in decades, the health ban on harvesting of oysters from the Lynnhaven Basin was lifted for significant portions of the waters.

Storm Water Management Program for Coastal Communities; Chesapeake Bay Region, VA; $220,000

- Funds are needed for Chesapeake Bay cities, counties, and towns in Virginia in order to administer effective storm water/flood water management programs include sea level rise.

  The Benefit-To-Cost ratio for these projects is 2.85 to 1, meaning that there is a return to the federal taxpayer of $2.85 for every $1.00 expended. The local project sponsors have agreed to provide all items of local cooperation to include applicable cost sharing.

Tangier Island Jetty; Accomack County, VA; $450,000

- Tangier Island is located in the Chesapeake Bay approximately 90 miles southeast of Washington, DC, and is entirely within the political boundaries of Accomack County on Virginia's Eastern Shore. The proposed jetty/breakwater would extend south; approximately 230 feet from the north shore on the western side of the island to the

Federal channel and then dogleg southwest approximately 200 feet, paralleling the channel. About 170 feet of revetment would armor the shoreline at the base of the structure. In addition, a small, 50-foot spur jetty would be constructed off the seawall on the south shore to reduce wave refraction.

The purpose of this project is to protect the inner channel and harbor from direct wave attack and from damage caused by sheets of ice pushed into the inner channel and harbor. It would also reduce erosion of the shoreline and sediment inflow to the navigation channel.

I certify to the best of my knowledge that neither I, nor my immediate family, has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressional directed spending items requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

I appreciate your consideration of these important initiatives and look forward to working closely with you on behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Should you or your staff have any questions regarding these requests please do not hesitate to contact my office. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

Jim Webb
United States Senator