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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

April 2, 2014

**Committee On Appropriations**  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor, Health  
and Human Services, Education,  
and Related Agencies  
Defense Subcommittee  
State, Foreign Operations,  
and Related Agencies Subcommittee

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The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Room 2359B, Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson:

Thank you for the opportunity to set forth our priorities for the fiscal year 2015 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The Savannah Harbor Expansion Project is a nationally significant project which boasts a 5.5:1 benefit/cost ratio. Upon completion, this project will provide \$174 million of annual, nation-wide economic benefits. In addition to federal construction funding allocation since fiscal year 2009, the State of Georgia has allocated \$266 million for construction of this important project. In order to ensure this project moves forward, the Georgia Delegation respectfully submits the following requests:

*Programmatic:*

Support the President's request for the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP) in the construction account.

*Report Language:*

Savannah Harbor Expansion, Georgia - The Committee is dismayed with the disregard of Congressional intent with respect to language included in the fiscal year 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act which clearly specified that SHEP was to be considered a project under construction. The Committee has once again moved the budget request for this item from the Investigations account to the Construction account where it has been consistently funded since fiscal year 2009. The SHEP is authorized for construction, all study and mitigation was incorporated in the scope of the original authorization, and it has met all requirements needed for the execution of a Project Partnership Agreement. The Secretary is directed to consider the project an ongoing construction project for purposes of developing future budget requests and shall execute a PPA immediately.

*Report Language:*

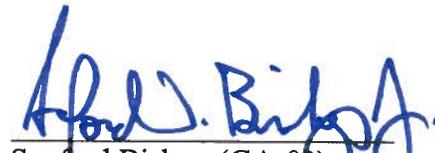
Section 902 Waiver - The Committee is concerned that the Corps has not made full use of the two-year waiver of maximum project cost limits as prescribed in Section 902 of WRDA 1986 that was enacted into law in the Consolidation Appropriations Act of 2014. In one case, a project was identified in the Administration's July 2012 "We Can't Wait" initiative as one of five nationally and regionally significant port projects that will help

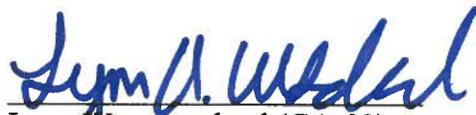
drive job growth and strengthen the economy. In addition, the Vice President indicated his strong support for the project during a publicized visit to the port. However, the Administration has not acted in accordance with its verbal support or the intent of Congress. The Committee directs the Corps to utilize the two-year 902 waiver immediately to allow projects of significant national economic benefit with high cost-benefit ratios to continue.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

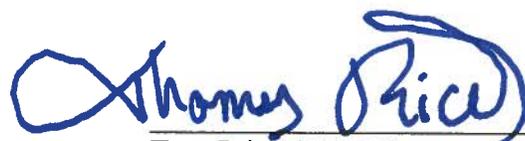
  
Jack Kingston (GA-01)  
Member of Congress

  
Sanford Bishop (GA-02)  
Member of Congress

  
Lynn Westmoreland (GA-03)  
Member of Congress

  
Hank Johnson (GA-04)  
Member of Congress

  
John Lewis (GA-05)  
Member of Congress

  
Tom Price (GA-06)  
Member of Congress

  
Rob Woodall (GA-07)  
Member of Congress

  
Austin Scott (GA-08)  
Member of Congress



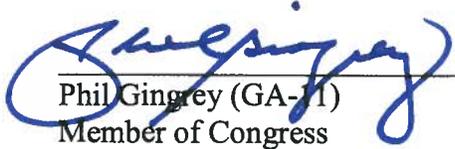
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Doug Collins (GA-09)  
Member of Congress



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Paul Broun (GA-10)  
Member of Congress



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Phil Gingrey (GA-11)  
Member of Congress



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John Barrow (GA-12)  
Member of Congress



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David Scott (GA-13)  
Member of Congress



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Tom Graves (GA-14)  
Member of Congress