August 4, 2014

The Honorable Gina McCarthy, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

The Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army
Department of the Army, Civil Works
108 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0108

Re: Clean Waters Rule Definition “Waters of the United States”

Dear Administrator McCarthy and Assistant Secretary Darcy:

I am writing to confirm the Philadelphia Water Department’s support of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers proposed Clean Water Act Rule Definition of “Waters of the United States” Under the Clean Water Act. This clarifying rulemaking restores protection for streams and wetlands previously protected under the Clean Water Act, safeguards water quality in the nation’s waters, protects jobs in businesses that depend on clean water and safeguards drinking water.

Over the next 25 years, the Philadelphia Water Department will invest more than $10 billion to improve Philadelphia’s water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure to meet regulatory requirements and continue our pledge to protect and preserve the water resources that allow us to protect public health and provide top quality service.

This ruling enhances our ability – and the ability of utilities across the nation – to honor this pledge.

Sincerely,

HOWARD M. NEUKRUG, P.E., BCEE
Water Commissioner

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