

CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR., MD
3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN ON OVERSIGHT
TRADE
HUMAN RESOURCES



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1803

August 4, 2016

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
1431 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2031

LAFAYETTE DISTRICT OFFICE:
800 LAFAYETTE STREET
SUITE 1400
LAFAYETTE, LA 70501
(337) 235-6322

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT OFFICE:
ONE LAKESHORE DRIVE
SUITE 1775
LAKE CHARLES, LA 70629
(337) 433-1747

The Honorable James M. Inhofe
Chairman
Senate Environment and Public Works
Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Ranking Member
Senate Environment and Public Works
Committee
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
House Transportation and Infrastructure
Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Ranking Member
House Transportation and Infrastructure
Committee
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Inhofe and Shuster, and Ranking Members Boxer and DeFazio:

I would like to begin by expressing my thanks to you, and all Committee members, for your diligent work on the Committees' respective versions of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016. The projects and resources provided for in this legislation are critical to our nations coasts, harbors and waterways and as a representative of a state that heavily relies on work conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), I appreciate your attention to this vital legislation.

As you may be aware, a favorable Chief's Report, dated July 29, 2016, has been signed and submitted to the Secretary of the Army for the Southwest Coastal Louisiana Feasibility Study, and will subsequently be transmitted to Congress. I began work on this project in 2005, during my time as a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. After Hurricane Rita devastated the Southwest Louisiana coast, I discovered that no comprehensive hurricane and storm surge damage risk reduction or coastal restoration study had ever been conducted for the coastal communities of Calcasieu, Cameron and Vermilion Parishes. Since first authorizing the reconnaissance study, I have worked diligently to advance this plan in order to ensure better protection of Southwest Louisiana's working coastline. I respectfully ask that you work to include the recommendations, substantially in accordance with the Chief's Report signed July 29, 2016, in this year's House and Senate WRDA legislation, so that included project recommendations can move closer to funding eligibility.

Thank you for your consideration of this truly important matter for the people of Southwest Louisiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C.W. Boustany Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles W. Boustany, Jr., M.D.
Member of Congress