



The Fertilizer Institute

Nourish, Replenish, Grow

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THE FERTILIZER INSTITUTE DISAPPOINTED IN PRESIDENTIAL VETO OF THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT

TFI Calls on Membership to Urge Congress to Override Veto

Washington, D.C. – Following President George W. Bush’s veto of legislation critical to the water transportation infrastructure, The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) called on its membership to urge their elected officials to override the president’s veto. Earlier today, President Bush vetoed the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (H.R. 1495), action he had been threatening because he believes the \$23.2 billion measure is too costly.

“In the seven years since Congress passed the last WRDA bill, a significant number of needs have arisen on our nation's inland waterways and this bill goes a long way in addressing many of these issues,” said TFI President Ford B. West. “TFI and its membership are urging Congress to override the president’s veto to ensure WRDA is enacted into law.”

WRDA authorizes critical projects on the inland waterways, including environmental restoration, navigation, flood control, hurricane protection, water supply, irrigation, and beach nourishment and recreation. These provisions will ensure that the United States continues to have modern and efficient locks and dams to support the transportation of fertilizer to produce America's food supply.

“Barge transportation of our products is critical to moving plant nutrients from import terminals and production facilities to farmer’s fields,” added West.

Last month, the Senate approved the WRDA conference report by a vote of 81 to 12, while the House, in August, approved the conference report by a vote of 381 to 40. Congress can override a veto by having a two-thirds vote of those present in both the House and Senate.

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The Fertilizer Institute represents the nation’s fertilizer industry. Producers, importers, retailers, wholesalers and companies that provide services to the fertilizer industry which comprise its membership are served by a full time Washington, D.C., staff in various legislative, educational and technical areas as well as with information and public relations programs.