

July 27, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House U.S. House of Representatives H-232 U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy House Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-204 U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Charles Schumer Senate Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Senate Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the 400 members of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) I am writing to share our strong support for S.J. Res. 55, introduced by Senator Dan Sullivan (AK) and H.J. Res. 91, introduced by Representative Garrett Graves (LA), which would repeal onerous regulations that will make it harder to modernize our infrastructure.

NSSGA is the leading voice and advocate for the aggregates industry. Our members are stone, sand, and gravel producers and the equipment manufacturers and service providers who support them. NSSGA's member companies produce more than 90 percent of the crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel consumed annually in the United States. Aggregates are the building blocks that create towns, cities and the connections in between. The industry is synonymous with infrastructure but it also provides more than just that. Aggregates play a crucial role in everything we touch - roads, railways, bridges, tunnels, water supply, sewers, electrical grids and telecommunications.

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) earlier this year issued a new regulation that complicates the permitting process for large infrastructure projects under the National Environmental Permitting Act (NEPA). This bureaucratic action broadens definitions and adds duplicative federal agency reviews that will do nothing to improve environmental outcomes. What is more frustrating is that these new rules run counter to the bipartisan NEPA reforms that were included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) which was signed into law last November.

Aggregates suppliers across the country crave certainty, as we work to supply the billions of tons of essential materials needed to improve roads; upgrade bridges; advance transportation systems and ports;

and advance our modern energy infrastructure that will be funded by the investments provided by the bipartisan IIJA. This is especially important in the current economic environment where needless red tape will delay project implementation and drive-up costs of construction materials.

This is why the members of the NSSGA strongly urge Congress to approve the Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolutions authored by Senator Sullivan and Representative Graves that provide greater certainty to the NEPA process to speed up permitting decision timelines. These commonsense bills will help deliver the bipartisan infrastructure improvements American communities were promised while not sacrificing environmental outcomes.

Sincerely,

Michael Johnson President and CEO National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association