



ASSOCIATION OF
METROPOLITAN
WATER AGENCIES

April 30, 2008

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2803

Dear Majority Leader Reid:

On behalf of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, I want to thank you for your sponsorship of the Climate Change Drinking Water Adaptation Research Act. The consensus among professional water managers is that significant impacts to water are already occurring as a result of climate change. Among the first and most critical impacts will be changes to patterns of precipitation around the world. This will affect water availability for the most basic drinking water and domestic water needs of populations in many areas of the United States.

Drinking water utilities throughout the United States are concerned that prolonged changes in precipitation patterns may result in drought or floods, changing snowpack amount and elevation, varying stream flow patterns, greater risk of freshwater contamination, and rising sea levels. Water utilities are also focusing on the relationship between water treatment and delivery and energy consumption. Working through AwwaRF, the industry is already focusing on strategies to address climate change issues, but much more research is needed. We strongly support your bill creating a comprehensive research program on the full range of impacts climate change will have on drinking water utilities, water supply, facilities and customers.

Sincerely,

Diane VanDe Hei
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Brian L. Ramaley
Newport News Waterworks

Vice President

James McDaniel
LA Dept. of Water and Power

Treasurer

Chips Barry
Denver Water Department

Secretary

Jerry N. Johnson
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority

Mark Premo
*Anchorage Water and
Wastewater Utility*

David Modeer
Tucson Water

Robert Hunter
*Atlanta Department of
Watershed Management*

Irene Caminer
*Chicago Department
of Water Management*

Don Broussard
Lafayette Utilities System

John P. Sullivan, Jr.
*Boston Water and
Sewer Commission*

Patricia Mulroy
Las Vegas Valley Water District

Emily Lloyd
New York City DEP

David Rager
Greater Cincinnati Water Works

Edmund Archuleta
El Paso Water Utilities

Jeff Taylor
Houston Public Utilities Division

Charles M. Murray
Fairfax Water

Chuck Clarke
Seattle Public Utilities

Diane VanDe Hei
Executive Director