



ASSOCIATION OF
METROPOLITAN
WATER AGENCIES

June 2, 2008

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the nation's largest drinking water utilities, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) urges Congress to pass legislation that includes federal support and incentives to help drinking water providers confront the impacts of climate change.

There is already strong evidence that climate change is having an impact on the world's water resources. Most experts believe that drinking water systems will increasingly experience serious repercussions from climate change, such as reduced snow pack, increased storm frequency and drought, changes in timing and volume of flows in waterways, declining water quality, and rising sea levels.

As Congress begins consideration of the Boxer substitute to the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act (S. 3036), AMWA supports measures in the bill that would make investments to expand research into the regional impacts of climate change on drinking water systems and offer regionalized assistance to address its effects on water resources. These provisions should be maintained and strengthened as the legislation moves forward.

In the coming months, AMWA is eager to work with senators to further improve the legislation by expanding support for the development of decision-support tools and data resources that will help water systems identify and plan for the future impacts of climate change. It is also essential that the final bill include direct support to help municipal water utilities adapt to the challenges of climate change over the coming years and decades.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with you.

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