



March 9, 2017

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the National Association of Counties (NACo) and our 3,069 counties we represent, we thank you for including over ten of our county officials for the signing of the *Presidential Executive Order on Restoring the Rule of Law, Federalism, and Economic Growth by Reviewing the “Waters of the United States” Rule*. We are excited to work with the Administration to repeal and replace this unworkable rule. **As the Administration moves forward, NACo respectfully requests a meeting to discuss how we can consult and collaborate during this effort.**

Counties can play a pivotal role during the rewrite since we are directly impacted by “Waters of the U.S.” (WOTUS) definitional changes. Not only do our counties implement federal Clean Water Act rules, but, as major owners of public infrastructure—including 45 percent of America’s road miles and roadside ditches, nearly 40 percent of bridges, flood control channels, stormwater systems, culverts and other drainage features—counties are directly impacted by federal WOTUS regulations.

For over a decade, we have been involved in efforts to revise the current WOTUS definition and, in the past several years, have led the charge to withdraw and rewrite the 2015 WOTUS rule. Our efforts have been guided by county experts—county engineers, attorneys and stormwater practitioners—who are on the ground working every day to implement federal and state mandated rules and policies.

By consulting with counties and other impacted state and local governments, the Administration reaffirms the role that state and local governments play in the overall governmental structure. We look forward to working with you on this and other issues of importance to county governments.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Chase  
Executive Director  
National Association of Counties