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Andrew Wheeler, Acting Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

R.D. James, Assistant Secretary of the Army for
Civil Works
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20314

Re: ASCE Request for Extension to Public Comment Period on EPA's and USACE's "Waters of the United States" Proposed Rule, Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0149

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) urges the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to extend the public comment period an additional 60 days for its "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS) proposed rule.

The ASCE represents more than 150,000 civil engineers in private practice, government, industry, and academia who are dedicated to protecting the public safety and welfare of people in the U.S. and worldwide through the advancement of the science and practice of civil engineering. For decades, the ASCE has advocated public policies that reduce risk and hold paramount the health, safety, and welfare of the public and environment. While ASCE has championed efforts to streamline the permitting and regulatory process across infrastructure sectors to help close our nation's \$2 trillion infrastructure investment gap, any such actions must have safeguards to protect the natural environment, including our nation's water.

Given the extensive impact on this proposed rule on infrastructure developments across the board, we urge the EPA and USACE to extend the public comment period an additional 60 days so that our members have an adequate amount of time to comment.

We thank you for your consideration of our request, and we look forward to providing full comments to this proposed rule.