

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 28, 2014

COMMITTEES:
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

BUDGET

SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. Dean Amhaus
President & CEO
The Water Council
247 W. Freshwater Way Suite 500
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Dear Mr. Amhaus:

I have seen first hand the great work The Water Council has done to transform Milwaukee into the global hub for water research, technology, and economic development. In a short amount of time, I have been fortunate enough to participate in the opening of the Global Water Center and see the launch of the Global Freshwater Seed Accelerator program. I am continually impressed by the scope of work you have undertaken and the impact it is already having on Wisconsin.

It has been my pleasure to be a strong champion of your efforts here in Washington D.C. as it ties to together my focus on supporting a "Made in Wisconsin" economy. By bringing together water technology and small businesses, I am proud to support The Water Council's proposal to the Small Business Administration (SBA) for a Center of Excellence for Freshwater Innovation and Small Business Development.

The Great Lakes contain over 1/5 of the world's freshwater, but the impact these bodies of water have on commercial industry and business stretch far beyond the shores of Wisconsin. Wisconsin's water technology cluster is a great asset for our quality of life and also our long-term economic security. Your efforts in Milwaukee are a perfect example of how we can grow public-private partnerships to create jobs and economic prosperity.

Efforts like The BREW are also a perfect example of that cross-sector engagement. You have created a "Silicon Valley of freshwater" in Milwaukee and small businesses and startups are benefiting from the resources available in that environment. That is why I am pleased to support your proposed Center of Excellence for Freshwater Innovation and Small Business Development.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator