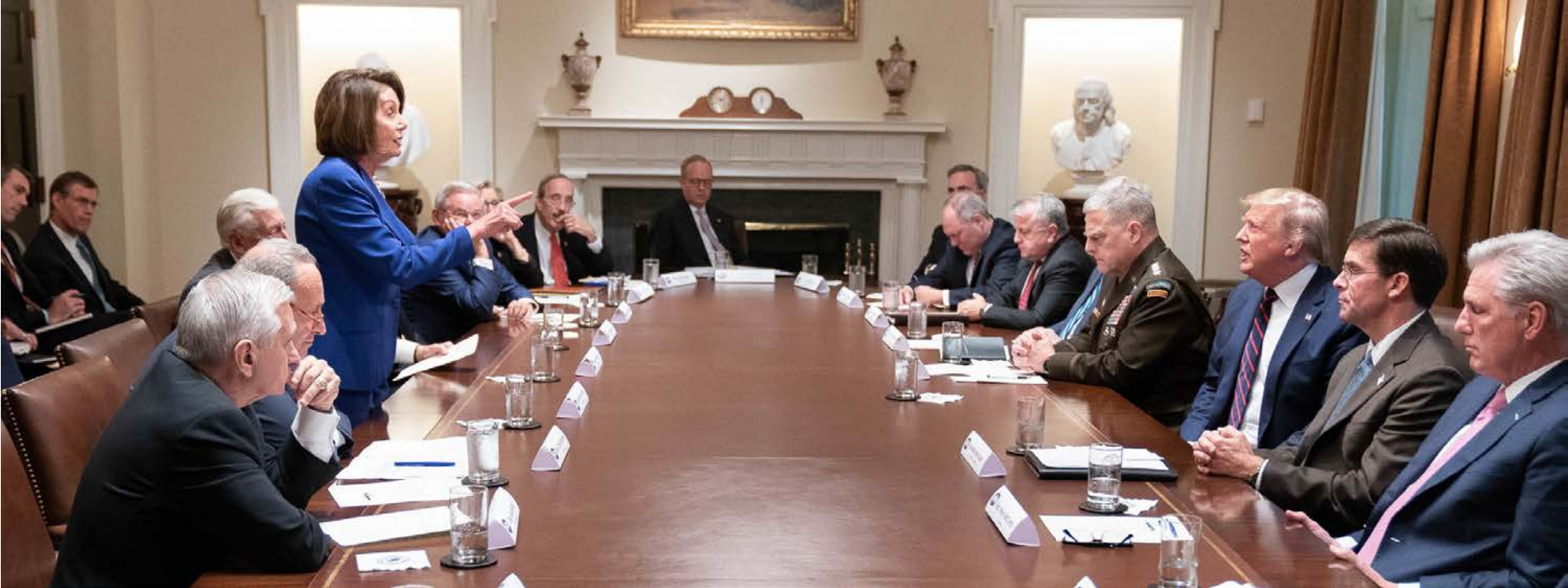


ACEC's 2020 Advocacy Agenda

Lynn Schloesser
September 23, 2020





Advocacy Environment

- Impeachment Fallout; Coronavirus
- Presidential, Congressional Elections
- Infrastructure Remains Possible



ACEC RECOVERY AGENDA

- Transportation (link)
 - FAST Act reauthorization
- Water (link)
 - WRDA, CWA, SDWA reauthorization
- Energy (link) ACEC draft energy strategy
 - S. 2657 the American Energy Innovation Act
 - H.R. 4447: H.R. 6097 (nuclear), H.R. 6084 (water), H.R. 2986 (storage), H.R. 5374 (geothermal), H.R. 5428 (grid modernization)



Transportation – Challenges and Priorities:

- Raise Revenues: projected Highway Trust Fund \$110 billion shortfall between 2021-28; coronavirus; support alternative funding (e.g., user fees), TIFIA, PABs
- Improve Resilience: provide financial resources; develop standards and processes
- Contracting: ensure qualified, innovative engineering; promote competitive qualifications-based process for engineering
- Streamline Regulation: simplify environmental reviews for efficient project delivery



Water Challenges and Priorities:

- Drinking/waste-water systems need \$750 billion over 20 years to maintain service (EPA)
 - Increase funding for the WIFIA and SRF programs and require the use of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) for engineering on federally funded drinking water projects
- \$100 billion backlog of authorized Corps of Engineers water resource projects
 - Reauthorize WRDA to support more resilient design, increase funding and financing options to reduce project backlog, and remove barriers to non-federal sponsor investments.



Energy – Challenges and Priorities:

- Climate Risk Mitigation: diverse energy supply and demand requires policies to advance technology innovation to reduce emissions; support nuclear, renewables and storage RDD&D
- Climate Risk Adaptation: cost-effective means is investment in energy resilience at the local and regional levels; support policies to improve grid security (physical and cyber)
- Facilitate Construction: modernize permitting and regulatory processes



Look Ahead - Senate - Transportation

S. 2302 [America's Transportation Infrastructure Act of 2019](#)

- \$287 billion in highway spending and is the most substantial highway legislation in history;
- \$259 billion to be distributed to states by formula;
- Codifies key tenets of the “One Federal Decision” policy to streamline project delivery and federal approvals;
- Establishes a program to support projects that will improve the resiliency of roads and bridges to natural disasters and extreme weather events;



Look Ahead - Senate - Water

America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020 (AWIA)

Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020 (DWIA)

- ACEC May 1, 2020 comment letter [here](#)
- Senate EPW [unanimously passed both bills](#) May 6, 2020



Look Ahead - Senate - Energy

S. 2657 American Energy Innovation Act ([AEIA](#))

- Efficiency, Renewables, Storage, – weatherization, smart buildings, wind and solar, hydropower incentives, advances marine energy research, geothermal, storage technologies and pumped storage
- Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage – modernize federal CCUS R&D efforts and promote direct carbon removal
- Advanced Nuclear – regain U.S. global leadership by pioneering advanced reactors
- Cybersecurity and Grid Modernization –provides new mechanisms and incentives to protect our cybersecurity and modernize the domestic grid.



Look Ahead - House - Transportation

[House Forward Framework](#) : \$760 billion over five years

[2020 Moving Forward Fact Sheet](#) : Transportation

- Modern Highways & Highway Safety Investments — \$329 Billion
- Transit Investment — \$105 Billion
- Rail Investments — \$55 Billion
- Airport Investments — \$30 Billion



Look Ahead - House - Water

[House Forward Framework](#) : \$760 billion over five years

[2020 Moving Forward Fact Sheet](#) : Water

- Clean Water & Wastewater Infrastructure — \$50.5 Billion
- Water Infrastructure (Flood protection, navigation, etc.) — \$10 Billion
- Harbor Infrastructure — \$19.7 Billion
- Brownfield Restoration — \$2.7 Billion
- Drinking Water — \$25.4 Billion



Look Ahead - House - Energy

[House Forward Framework](#) : \$760 billion over five years

[2020 Moving Forward Fact Sheet](#) : Energy

- Clean Energy— \$34.3 Billion

Energy Innovation bills: [here](#) and [here](#)

- passed House Science Committee
- supported in [draft](#) ACEC Energy Strategy



Look Ahead - House - Communications

[House Forward Framework](#) : \$760 billion over five years

[2020 Moving Forward Fact Sheet](#) : Communications

- Broadband & Communications — \$86 Billion
- Public Safety Communications — \$12 Billion



Waters of the US (WOTUS):

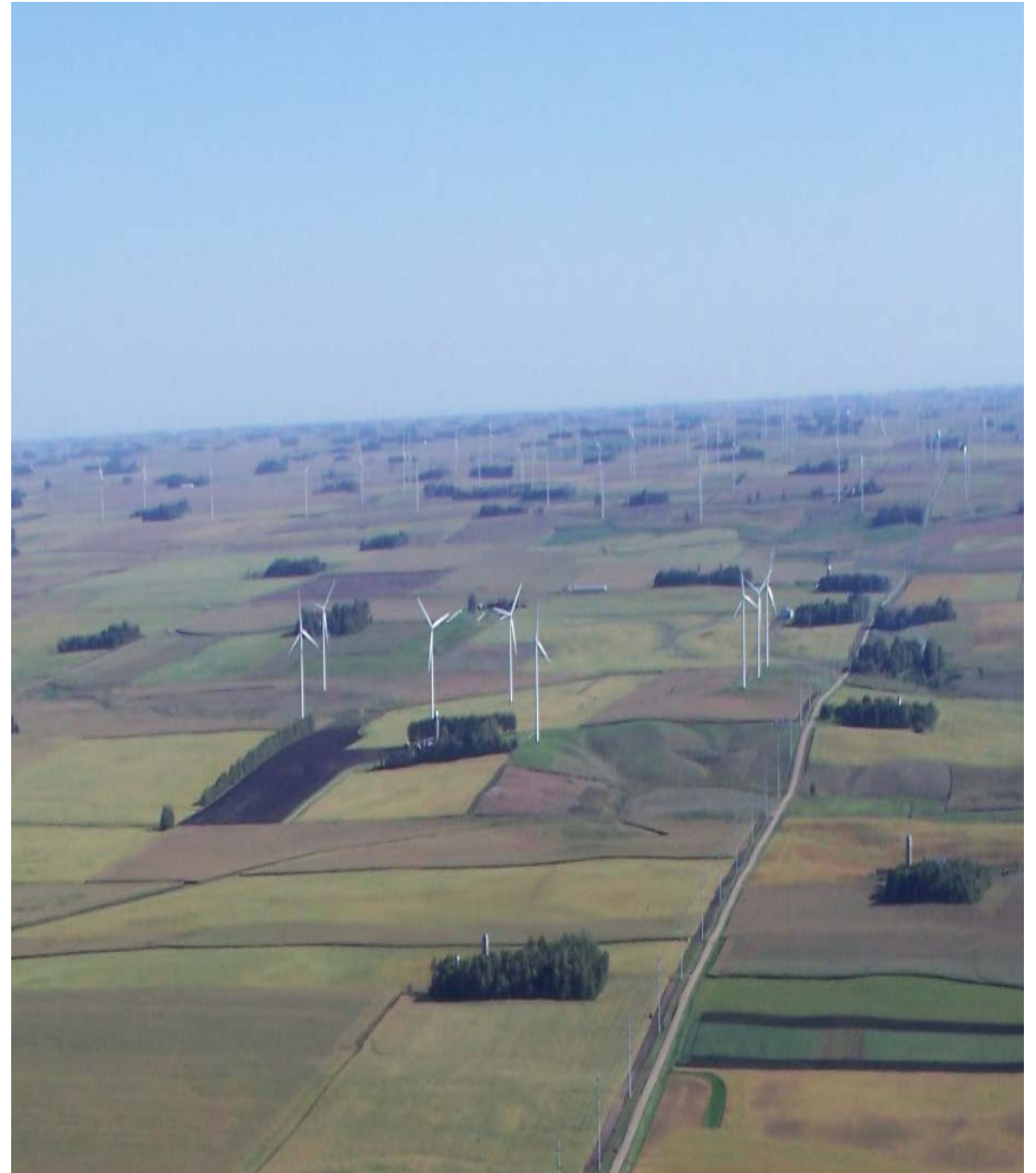
- Previous WOTUS rule repealed, replacement finalized 01/23/20, effective 60 days after publication in the Federal Register.

Emerging contaminants/PFAS:

- Legislation passed House designating PFAS as a hazardous substance under Superfund
- ACEC opposed, supporting utility clients
- EPA announced intent to regulate PFAS and PFOA on 2/20/20

Environment

- Superfund/Environmental Management funding
 - RAF implementation
- NEPA proposed rule ACEC comments filed 3/10/20





Water Energy and Environment Committee

- [Summer](#) and [Winter](#) Meetings; Updates (two to five times weekly)
- Work Groups: water infrastructure, emerging contaminants, cybersecurity, energy markets, remediation, permitting, resilience

Advocacy & External Affairs



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Political Director

An aerial photograph of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, showing its suspension towers and the approach spans over the water. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in white text in the center of the image.

Questions?