



American Water Works
Association



June 10, 2009

Mr. T. Duncan Ellison
Executive Director
Canadian Water and Wastewater Association
Unit 11
1010 rue Polytek Street
Ontario, CA K1J9H9

Dear Duncan,

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Buy American policy enunciated in U.S. economic recovery and stimulus efforts. As I'm sure you know, neither AWWA nor WEF sought or supported those provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. However, at this point they are law.

We understand that the US-Canadian market in water and wastewater products is highly integrated and characterized by production in both countries and significant cross-border trade on the basis of price and quality. We also understand the sentiment behind the recent action by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Having said that, we hope you understand that we can neither condone nor prohibit individual companies from contacting their customers regarding Buy American requirements. However, we can take steps to emphasize to ALL of our members - suppliers, contractors, utilities, and others - that the only official guidance on the so-called Buy American provision is the guidance issued by USEPA. We will encourage all of our members to rely on this guidance and not to rely on unofficial interpretations or representations.

We hope this issue does not damage the long-standing and excellent relationship between our Canadian and US memberships, which for many years has benefited our associations, our members, and the water community as a whole.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mike Leonard in black ink.

Mike Leonard
President, AWWA

Handwritten signature of Rebecca West in black ink.

Rebecca West
President, WEF