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June 25, 2015

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chairman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Appropriations  
2406 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Chairman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Interior, Environment, and  
Related Agencies Subcommittee  
2205 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey  
Ranking Member  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Appropriations  
2365 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum  
Ranking Member  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Interior, Environment, and  
Related Agencies Subcommittee  
2256 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers, Ranking Member Lowey, Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

On behalf of its 1.1 million members, the National Association of REALTORS® urges your support for several provisions in the FY 2016 Interior Appropriations bill, which is scheduled for a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives. If passed, these provisions will bring relief to millions of Americans from costly regulations and federal government overreach.

These provisions would:

1. Prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from using any funds to implement the recently finalized "Waters of the U.S." rule. This rule significantly expands the federal government's jurisdiction over more U.S. waters, which will make property development more expensive and burdensome.
2. Prohibits the EPA from using any funds to implement restrictions on power plants related to the proposed Clean Power Plan. This rule would increase the cost of electricity, making it more expensive to own a home.
3. Prohibits any funds to be used to develop a proposed rule that would list the greater sage grouse as an endangered species. Listing this species as endangered would place millions of acres of property off-limits from development and resource extraction, placing jobs and the economy of the West in jeopardy.

NAR supports these provisions of the FY 2016 Interior Appropriations bill, and looks forward to working with Congress to protect the environment while minimizing unnecessary red tape and permitting burden on the real estate market and the rest of the economy.

Sincerely,



Chris Polychron  
2015 President, National Association of REALTORS®

