MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for Section 1013 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 – Evaluation of Project Partnership Agreements

1. Section 1013 of WRRDA 2014 directs the Secretary to contract with the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) to carry out a comprehensive review of the process for preparing, negotiating, and approving Project Partnership Agreements and to provide recommendations for improving the process. It further provides that the Secretary shall submit the NAPA's findings to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives. If further provides that the Secretary shall submit to both Committees a detailed response to NAPA’s findings, including which recommendations the Secretary plans to implement. A copy of Section 1013 of WRRDA 2014 is enclosed.

2. At such times as funds are appropriated by Congress for this purpose, HQUSACE, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), will develop the scope of work and contract with the NAPA for the comprehensive review.

Encl

THEODORE A. BROWN, P.E.
Chief, Planning and Policy
Directorate of Civil Works
SEC. 1013. EVALUATION OF PROJECT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall contract with the National Academy of Public Administration to carry out a comprehensive review of the process for preparing, negotiating, and approving Project Partnership Agreements and the Project Partnership Agreement template, which shall include—
   (1) an evaluation of the process for preparing, negotiating, and approving Project Partnership Agreements, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, including suggested modifications to the process provided by non-Federal interests; and
   (2) recommendations based on the evaluation under paragraph (1) to improve the Project Partnership Agreement template and the process for preparing, negotiating, and approving Project Partnership Agreements.

(b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—
   (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit the findings of the National Academy of Public Administration to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.
   (2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the findings are received under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a detailed response, including any recommendations the Secretary plans to implement, on the process for preparing, negotiating, and approving Project Partnership Agreements and the Project Partnership Agreement template.