



DAVID A. RAYMOND
PRESIDENT & CEO

June 7, 2010

Mr. Brian Shunk
Asst. Principal-in-Charge Eastern Region
Trans Associates Engineering Consultants, Inc.
4955 Steubenville Pike Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Dear Mr. Shunk:

In this critical economic and political year, I want to bring you up to date on how ACEC is protecting your business interests. We have achieved landmark successes in recent months on several federal issues:

- **Project Labor Agreements**: We exempted engineering services from the Administration's final rule ordering PLAs for construction site work.
- **Retainage**: Made "optional" a previously "mandatory 10%" retainage on direct federal contracts.
- **Liability Protection**: Won federal appeals court ruling to protect engineering firms working for FEMA against separate liability under state law.
- **FAR Compliance**: Developed new guidance with AASHTO and FHWA that compels state DOTs to strictly follow FAR-based procedures.

Additionally, we published an important QBS study demonstrating empirically that QBS (rather than low bid) leads to greater cost savings and owner satisfaction. Special online seminars helped members gain a more thorough understanding of the new health care legislation, new energy markets, revised FHWA audit guidelines, and other key issues. We are also collaborating with ASCE and APWA on a unique sustainability rating system for infrastructure to complement LEED.

Front burner issues remaining on our agenda include:

- **Water**: Passing a \$40 billion water bill, as well as legislation for an additional \$6 billion annual private activity bonding authority for water projects.
- **Transportation**: Passing a \$53 billion airport program funding bill; and working with Congressional leaders on a new six-year highway bill and finding revenue sources to pay for it.
- **Energy**: Expanding market opportunities; opposing restrictive measures.
- **Tax**: Seeking repeal of 3% withholding mandate on government contracts; preservation of cash accounting option; and opposing tax increases that would burden engineering firms.

You should also know that, in the run-up to the November elections, ACEC's federal PAC – one of the largest in the country – is supporting pro-business candidates who support our agenda. If you have any other issues on which you believe we should focus, please let me know. And I hope to see you at our Fall Conference in Puerto Rico at the El Conquistador Resort, October 18-20!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Raymond', is placed below the 'Sincerely,' text.