October 31, 2017

DAVID A. RAYMOND
PRESIDENT & CEO

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Chairman, Committee on
Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
Ranking Member, Committee on
Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Crapo and Ranking Member Brown:

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies—the business association of the nation’s engineering industry—I am writing to convey the Council’s strong support for restoring a quorum to the board of directors for the U.S. Export-Import Bank.

ACEC member firms work throughout the world on infrastructure, energy and other projects in the built environment, and they see firsthand the critical role the Bank plays in helping American firms compete for and win work in the competitive international marketplace. Unfortunately, many opportunities for our firms are currently on hold because of the current limitation in the Bank’s lending authority. Congress spoke clearly regarding the value of the Bank with its reauthorization in the FAST Act in 2015. However, lacking a quorum in the board of directors, the Bank cannot make the loans necessary to help engineering firms successfully compete against other international firms.

For this reason, the Council is very pleased that the Committee will review President Trump’s nominees for the Bank’s board this week. We are concerned, however, over the nomination of former Representative Scott Garrett as chairman. His record in Congress in strong opposition to the Bank calls into question whether he can effectively lead this important institution and restore its role on behalf of U.S. businesses competing abroad.

The Council respectfully urges the Committee to oppose Mr. Garrett’s nomination, and to support board nominees who support the mission of the Bank and who will restore the Bank’s full lending authority.

Thank you for your consideration of the industry’s views on the nation’s export assistance program.

Sincerely,

[Signature]