## Sample Letter Inviting your Member of Congress to Join the Congressional Decentralized Recycling Caucus

Tips about writing your Congressman:

- Be direct and to the point.
- Use email to send your message. All letters sent to Congress via the Postal System are radiated before delivery, which can severely damage the paper and make print illegible.
- Send a copy to NOWRA at <u>executivedirector@nowra.org</u>.

Writing the letter is as easy as 1-2-3

- 1. Find your representative's address: <u>Click here for a Congressional Directory</u>.
- 2. Address your communication to the Member as shown below:

The Honorable [Full Name of congressman] US House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

3. Use the message below to draft your letter (or use your own words):

Dear Representative [Last name of congressman]:

I am writing to urge you to become a member of the Congressional Decentralized Wastewater Recycling Caucus. This bi-partisan caucus is co-sponsored by Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO), and Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO). I have attached a letter from them inviting you to join the Caucus and describing why it was established.

[Describe your business briefly – location, how many people employed] As a professional in the decentralized wastewater industry, I understand well both the benefits these systems provide as well as the many challenges faced by people in your district who are served by them. Our industry represents more than a quarter of our nation's homeowners, and we face many of the same infrastructure challenges facing publicly owned sewage treatment plants, yet we receive virtually no federal funds to address them.

The Caucus will keep you and your staff informed on the issues facing those that rely on decentralized wastewater systems to treat and recycle their water. The Caucus will also work to highlight and find solutions to challenges such as underfunding infrastructure and the lack of good data surrounding the utilization of decentralized systems.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please feel free to reach out to me, or contact Eric Casey, who serves as Executive Director of the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association at 800-336-2942. Thank you for your consideration.

[Name]
[Company/organization, if applicable]
[mailing address]
[telephone (optional)]