Date

The Honorable \_ [full name] \_\_

Indiana House of Representatives OR Indiana State Senate (choose based on who you are addressing)

200 West Washington Street

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Re: Amendment to Line item 1001 of the Governor’s Budget: Clean Water Indiana: Next Level Conservation for Indiana’s Working Lands, $8.6 million budget increase annually

Dear Representative OR Senator \_ [last name] \_\_,

As your constituent and a registered voter, I am writing to express my support for the proposal to increase Clean Water Indiana (CWI) funding. CWI is a resource that provides funding for Indiana’s working lands in the areas of water and soil quality, invasive species management, and more. It is a public-private collaboration that works, and currently the demand for financial support to address conservation on working lands is outpacing the program’s funding.

Indiana has 12 million acres of agriculture (52%) and 5 million acres of woodlands, lakes, and parks (21%). That covers 73% of Indiana’s land, and this funding would go directly to the management of this majority of land in Indiana. More CWI funding means more opportunities to reduce soil erosion and runoff, improve water quality, and manage invasive species in our hardwood forests and other habitats. By being good stewards of our own land, we are also being good neighbors by decreasing nutrient loss and sediment that would go downstream, as well as managing invasive species to slow the spread.

[Personalize this section – what is your highest priority? Personal experience? Why are you personally writing this letter? Keep it short and to the point but meaningful.]

By supporting this increase, you have an opportunity to improve Hoosier quality of life by improving the quality of our water resources, promote soil health, enhance habitats, protect the health of forests and the hardwood industry, and enhance Indiana’s resiliency in the face of climate change. You are supporting practical solutions for existential threats to our state’s natural resources. You are also strengthening the ability of our agency and non-governmental organizations to leverage state and federal funds to get more accomplished. This $8.6 million investment will allow transformational change that will benefit all Hoosiers statewide.

Sincerely,

Your name

Your street address

City, state, zip

Phone

Email