### 1AC – Inherency

#### Contention 1 is Inherency

#### 1. Adoption of a “fix when fail” policy ensures delays and collapse of inland waterways

Len Boselovic, award winner for business and investigative reporting, 3/18/2012, Pittsburgh Post (“THE NATION'S LOCKS AND DAMS, INCLUDING 23 IN REGION, ARE ON THE BRINK OF FAILURE, ACCORDING TO U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS”)

Faced with flat funding, the Corps has adopted a "fix when fail"

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are coming from and the depth of the river where they are headed.

#### 2. And, there’s no impact to minor delays, but age and poor maintenance makes mass lock failure inevitable

Boselovic 2012 (Len Boselovic, Journalist for Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 5/9/2012 “Locked and Dammed: Neglect erodes river commerce,” http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/news/environment/locked-and-dammed-neglect-erodes-river-commerce-617136/)hhs-ps

Mr. Dinkel said short-term outages could be managed "through some creative

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surprise to consumers, who would pay the costs related to the outage.

#### 3. That completely halts inland river commerce

Alexander 12 (TIM ALEXANDER, Illinois Correspondent for FarmWorld, “STC calls on Congress for reliable waterways funding,” 4/25/2012 http://www.farmworldonline.com/news/NewsArticle.asp?newsid=14505)hhs-ps

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Transportation, including the nation’s inland waterways system

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the global marketplace,” he said. “And that means lost jobs.”

#### 4. Failure of one lock spills over – brings all river commerce to a standstill

Meira 12 (Kristin Meira, Executive Director @ Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, Political Transcript of a hearing of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, proquest)

Early in the last decade, our colleagues at the Portland and Walla-Walla

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closure of one of our projects creates a bottleneck for the entire system.

### 1AC – Plan

#### Plan: The United States federal government should modernize its system of locks and dams.

### 1AC – Agriculture

#### Contention 2 is Agriculture

#### 1. Lock collapse decimates agriculture exports – shipping costs destroy competitiveness

Kruse et al., Director at the Center for Ports and waterways, 2011 (“America’s Locks & Dams: “A Ticking Time Bomb for Agriculture?”, www.unitedsoybean.org/wp-content/uploads/Americas\_Locks\_And\_Dams.pdf)

Agriculture accounted for 22% of all transported tonnage and 31% of all ton

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via barge; for soybeans, the percentage was 87–89%.2

#### 2. Alternative transportation can’t sustain the influx of freight – shift causes massive spikes in transportation cost and causes exports to plummet

USB, 12 (United Soybean Board, 2/8/12, “Dilapidated Locks on U.S. Rivers Put Farmers, Consumers at Risk,” http://www.unitedsoybean.org/global-opportunities-briefings/dilapidated-locks-on-u-s-rivers-put-farmers-consumers-at-risk/)

The study expresses grave concern about aging locks and dams along these rivers that serve

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and improvement of locks, dams and other important infrastructure for agricultural shipping.

#### 3 Shipping cost is the biggest internal link to food price spikes

**UN Committee on Transport 08** United Nations Economic and Social Council, “ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC,” TRANSPORT AND POVERTY: FROM FARM TO MARKET—EXTENDING THE REACH OF LOGISTICS, http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/ct2008/ctr\_2e.pdf

SUMMARY Recent increases in the price of food and concerns over its availability and access

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fruit and vegetables, meat or fish at the domestic or international levels.

#### 4. The brink is high – economic recessions and recent food crises have put response capacity on the edge

Brown 11 (LESTER R. BROWN, “The New Geopolitics of Food,” May/June 2011, foreign Policy, United States environmental analyst, founder of the Worldwatch Institute, and founder and president of the Earth Policy Institute, a nonprofit research organization based in Washington, D.C.)hhs-ps

Until recently, sudden price surges just didn't matter as much, as they were

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famine. We can't do that anymore; the safety cushion is gone.

### 1AC – Agriculture – Famine

#### Scenario 1 is Famine

#### 1. Developing countries are more and more dependent on US food imports

Kwa 03 “Developing countries are becoming more dependent on food imports,” Aileen Kwa, FOCUS ON TRADE No 86, APRIL 2003

Developing countries are becoming more dependent on food imports – especially in staple commodities.

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developing countries is increasing. Not only are developing countries increasingly dependent on imports

#### 2. Food prices wreck purchasing power in developing countries – causes mass starvation

Von Braun 08 (DR JOACHIM VON BRAUN, Before becoming IFPRI's Director General in 2002, he served as Director of the Center for Development Research and Professor for Economic and Technological Change at the University of Bonn, Germany. His Doctoral Degree in Agricultural Economics is from the University of Gottingen, Germany, “Rising Food Prices,” Jul 29th 2008, http://www.economist.com/debate/days/view/155)hhs-ps

The most disturbing consequence of high food prices is an increase in hunger and malnutrition

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selling their productive assets and withdrawing children, especially girls, from school.

#### 3. Famine is a d-rule

LaFollette 03 [Hugh, Cole Chair in Ethics University of South Florida St. Petersburg, "World Hunger" Blackwell Companion to Applied Ethics, ed. Ray Frey and Christopher Heath Wellman, Blackwell 2003, http://www.stpt.usf.edu/hhl/papers/World.Hunger.htm]

Those who claim the relatively affluent have this strong obligation must, among other things

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for all than to continue to live at the expense of the starving.

### 1AC – Agriculture – China

#### Scenario 2 is China

#### 1. Domestic production shortfalls means China is shifting heavily to food imports – price hikes tank food security and cause domestic instability

Shea 5/29 (Paul Shea, an Irish Economics, Finance and Investment writer. His work has been featured on the front page Google News and Google Finance, “The US Has a Very Important Resource which China Doesn’t: Food,” May 29, 2012 )hhs-ps

As China’s economy grows, so too will its demand for food. It’s own

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deal with them at least as fervently as we deal with our own.

#### 2. US imports are the only internal link to collapse – other countries can’t fill in immediately due to opposite growing seasons and small market share

WSJ 12 “UPDATE: Brazil Seen Running Out of Soybeans for Export,” June 6, 2012; hhs-ps

Because the Southern Hemisphere's planting schedule is opposite that of the U.S.,

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keeping the current accounts in pretty good shape," Mr. Thin said.

#### 3. That escalates to full political upheaval in China

Smith 98 (Paul J. Smithis a research fellow with the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Hawaii. He specializes in transnational security issues and has published numerous articles on these subjects.], “FOOD SECURITY AND POLITICAL STABILITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION,” ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES, SEPTEMBER 11, 1998http://www.apcss.org/Publications/Report\_Food\_Security\_98.html )hhs-ps

Food security and political stability are often inextricably linked in many countries. Historically,

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even political revolution. Food security thus becomes an issue of regime survival.

#### 4. Chinese instability causes extinction

Yee and Storey 2002 (Herbert Yee, Professor of Politics and International Relations at the Hong Kong Baptist University, and Ian Storey, Lecturer in Defence Studies at Deakin University, 2002 (The China Threat: Perceptions, Myths and Reality, RoutledgeCurzon, pg 5

The fourth factor contributing to the perception of a China threat is the fear of

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disintegrating China would also pose a threat to its neighbours and the world.

### 1AC – Deforestation

#### Contention 3 is Deforestation

#### 1. Rising food prices will force arable land increases that will come at the cost of global biodiversity

Blas 08(Javier, London Financial Times Asia Edition, Jan. 22nd, l/n accessed 8/1)

Scarcity of water and arable land means that the boom in food prices could last

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surge, Page 24 28E 40L 26U www.ft.com/foodprices

#### 2. Specifically, US soybean competitiveness is key to prevent Brazil from dominating the soy market

AM 11 (11/11/11, agrimoney.com, “US soy exports have 'narrow window' for recovery,” http://www.agrimoney.com/news/us-soy-exports-have-narrow-window-for-recovery--3836.html)

US soybean exporters have only a "narrow window" when they will have the

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stocks will have been disposed of and South American exports are seasonally small".

#### 3. Growth of Brazilian soybean exports triggers deforestation of the Amazon rainforest that is key for biodiversity

Brown, 9 President of the Earth Policy Institute (Lester R. Brown, the recipient of many prizes and awards, including 25 honorary degrees, a MacArthur Fellowship, the 1987 United Nations' Environment Prize, In 2012, he was inducted into the Earth Hall of Fame Kyoto, “Growing Demand for Soybeans Threatens Amazon Rainforest”, December 30, 2009, http://www.earth-policy.org/plan\_b\_updates/2009/update86)

The Amazon rainforest sustains one of the richest concentrations of plant and animal biological

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growth in demand for soybeans by stabilizing population worldwide as soon as possible.

#### 4. Amazon deforestation causes extinction

Takacs 96 (Instructor in Department of Earth Systems Science and Policy at California State-Monterey Bay [David, 1996 Philosophies of Paradise, pg. http://www.dhushara.com/book/diversit/restor/takacs.htm]

So biodiversity keeps the world running. It has value and of itself, as

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of the next century - not with a bang but a whimper.14

### 1AC – Economy

#### Contention 4 is the Economy

#### 1. Lack of investment in lock modernization is stifling economic recovery – the plan is key to prevent the collapse of multiple economic sectors

USA Today, Paul Davidson staff writer, 5/20/12, http://www.usatoday.com/money/economy/story/2012-05-20/creaking-infrastructure/55096396/1, “USA's creaking infrastructure holds back economy”; AB

Inland waterways quietly keep the nation's economy flowing as they transport $180 billion of

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We're the silent industry" because waterways are less visible, he says.

#### 2. Inland waterway renewal achieves short and long term economic competitiveness and job security

Gibbs 12 (Bob, representative of Ohio, Political Transcript of a hearing of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, proquest)

But when it comes to inland waterway system, we have been investing too slowly

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about keeping American farms and manufacturers and businesses competitive and growing American jobs.

#### 3. Even if there are no catastrophic failures the lack of investment injects uncertainty that will undermine the viability of the inland waterway system

Bray, 11 --- Center for Transportation Research, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (9/21/2011, Larry G., Congressional Documents and Publications, House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Hearing - "The Economic Importance and Financial Challenges of Recapitalizing the Nation's Inland Waterways Transportation System,” Factiva, JMP)

Has Aging Infrastructure Left US Inland Navigation at a Crossroads? While my years of

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wrongly-abandoned routes that can never be restored will top many lists.

#### 4. That uncertainty over the funding of inland waterways ensures economic disaster

Gibbs, 12 – Member, Representative for Ohio’s 18th Congressional District (4/18/2012, Bob Gibbs, “HOW RELIABILITY OF THE INLAND WATERWAY SYSTEM IMPACTS ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS”, http://transportation.house.gov/news/PRArticle.aspx?NewsID=1609)

Washington, DC – The Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee, chaired by U.

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, low cost, domestic energy – including electricity – to our country.”

#### 5. Economic collapse causes global nuclear war.

Merlini, Senior Fellow – Brookings, 11[Cesare Merlini, nonresident senior fellow

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World?', Survival, 53:2, 117 – 130]

Two neatly opposed scenarios for the future of the world order illustrate the range of

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theocratic absolutes, competing or converging with secular absolutes such as unbridled nationalism.

### 1AC – Solvency

#### Contention 5 is Solvency

#### 1. Army Corp key – expertise, coordination with agencies, engineering, empirics

Howland 4 Dr. William G. Howland 4 is the Basin Program Manager of Lake Champlain, Grand Isle, VT, “U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ROLE IN THE NATION'S WATER RESOURCE NEEDS IN THE 21ST CENTURY, Capital Hill Testimony, March 31, lexis

Our partnership involves the states of Vermont and New York, the Province of Quebec

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to testify before you today. I look forward to answering your questions.

#### 2. Funding for waterway modernization is inevitable – cost overruns and stop-go payment makes status quo policies collapse under themselves

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 3/25/2012 (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, “Water torture: Congress needs to act on decaying locks and dams,” March 25, 2012, http://old.post-gazette.com/pg/12085/1219052-192.stm )hhs-ps

Congress bears the prime responsibility. The buck has literally stopped on Capitol Hill.

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wants to write an editorial that begins, "We told you so."

#### 3. There’s no alternative to locks – failures will force freight onto costly alternatives

Toohey, 11 President and CEO of Waterways Council, Inc. (9/21/2011, Mike, Congressional Documents and Publications, ouse Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Hearing - "The Economic Importance and Financial Challenges of Recapitalizing the Nation's Inland Waterways Transportation System," Factiva, JMP)

Mr. Chairman, our inland waterways system includes approximately 12,000 miles of

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of our inland waterways system. WCI is dedicated to preventing that outcome.

#### 4. No other system can replace waterways

Kruse et al., Director at the Center for Ports and waterways, 2011 (“America’s Locks & Dams: “A Ticking Time Bomb for Agriculture?”, www.unitedsoybean.org/wp-content/uploads/Americas\_Locks\_And\_Dams.pdf)

A recent report by the USDA and the U.S. Department of Transportation

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in specific corridors, and the perishable nature of the products being moved.

#### 5. Inland waterway modernization accesses new markets post-Panama Canal expansion

Len Boselovic, award winner for business and investigative reporting, 3/18/2012, Pittsburgh Post (“THE NATION'S LOCKS AND DAMS, INCLUDING 23 IN REGION, ARE ON THE BRINK OF FAILURE, ACCORDING TO U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS”)

Industry officials say more reliable locks and dams could boost U.S. exports

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learn from the country that is operating the Panama Canal," he said.