

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for a Regional Drinking Water Treatment Plant in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Independence, located at 555 South Main Street, Independence, Oregon 97351.

The funding will support the final design and engineering as well as construction of the regional drinking water treatment facility. Specifically, the funds will support design services and construction of the surface water intake system, raw water transmission pipeline, site preparation, treatment plant structure, and associated treatment equipment.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will provide long-term drinking water reliability for residents across Independence, Monmouth, and surrounding rural communities in Polk County. Their current production wells are located within the Willamette River floodplain. During a major flood event, debris impact could disable wellhead infrastructure and result in a loss of supply to the entire system. Improving redundancy and protecting against catastrophic failure are core objectives of the project. The regional treatment facility will diversify the region's water supply, reduce reliance on vulnerable groundwater wells, and ensure the system can meet future residential, institutional, and economic growth.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-12.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family have any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



MEMBER OF CONGRESS