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

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

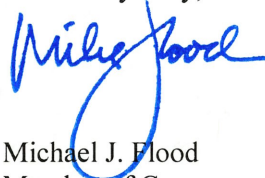
Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Clarkson, NE Water Well Replacement project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Clarkson, NE located at P.O. Box 18, 120 West 2nd Street, Clarkson, NE 68629-0018. Funding would be used to construct a new 500-gallon-per-minute municipal well to replace critical drinking water capacity permanently lost due to documented petroleum groundwater contamination. The project also includes the installation of approximately 14,000 linear feet of 10-inch transmission main to connect the new well to the existing water system.

This project is an appropriate responsible use of taxpayer funds because it restores federally regulated drinking water infrastructure compromised by documented man-made contamination and protects prior public investment. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is authorized to establish national health-based standards to protect public water systems from naturally occurring and man-made contaminants. In Clarkson's case, groundwater contamination from a leaking underground storage tank — first documented in 1985 — ultimately rendered Municipal Well #75-1 unusable in 1985, eliminating approximately 500 gallons per minute of production capacity in a federally regulated system. The City undertook a deliberate, multi-year planning process before seeking federal assistance. In 2022, a comprehensive hydrogeologic desktop evaluation analyzed five potential well sites. The selected location was approved by the Nebraska Department of Water, Environment, and Energy, and a test well was drilled in May 2025 to confirm long-term water quality and production capacity. Clarkson has secured \$600,000 in state remediation funding, demonstrating leveraged partnership. Federal investment now completes a construction-ready project that restores compliance, prevents accelerated wear on the City's remaining three wells, and avoids significantly higher long-term emergency or replacement costs.

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 I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Yours very truly,



Michael J. Flood
Member of Congress