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Committee on House Administration
Ranking Member

Committee on Appropriations
Vice Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Subcommittee on Defense

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

March 27, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Monroe County Iola Utilities Relocation and Redevelopment Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Monroe County, located at 39 West Main Street, Rochester, NY 14614.

The funding would be used to construct a new underground utility pathway to deliver steam and condensate services from the Iola Campus boiler plant to the surrounding redevelopment area. Currently, high-pressure steam, low-pressure steam, pumped condensate, domestic hot water, electrical service, and fuel oil are routed through an aging underground box-culvert utility tunnel extending from Building 11 (B11) across the Iola Campus. Approximately 120 feet of the tunnel runs beneath New York State Route 15A. The tunnel has experienced significant deterioration due to water infiltration, extreme temperature fluctuations, and ineffective past repairs, resulting in structural deficiencies and ongoing maintenance challenges. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is proactively addressing failing infrastructure before it requires significantly more costly emergency repairs or causes service disruptions. By acting now, the project reduces long-term costs by lowering maintenance needs and limiting future financial burden on local taxpayers.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph D. Morelle".

Joseph Morelle
Member of Congress