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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4313

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COMMITTEE

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SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

HOUSE REPUBLICAN WHIP TEAM

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
H-307, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I request funding for the Red River Authority Lockett Water Systems Improvements in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Red River Authority of Texas, located at PO Box 240 Wichita Falls, Texas 76307. The funding would be used to meet regulatory compliance for pressure and storage, including upgrading the Vernon West Pump Station, constructing a new water tower, and upgrading distribution lines. This project will upgrade the Vernon West pump station with new piping, electrical equipment, pumps to meet the gallons per minute pumping requirements, and a generator quick connect. Furthermore, this project will include rehabilitating the existing storage tank and constructing a new 75,000-gallon elevated storage tank to provide pressure and storage to the entire system.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is vital to the lives of the rural Texans who rely on the Red River Authority's systems and the agricultural industry they sustain. However, the Authority's water systems were designed in the 40s and 60s and desperately need repairs due to the aging infrastructure. If it weren't for the Authority, many of these systems would have had to have been abandoned years ago, forcing many communities to relocate. Moreover, these rural systems are slowly decaying, causing their rural customers to deal with continual outages from leaks and increased rates to deal with water loss and updates to the infrastructure.

Federal assistance is needed because these rural customers can no longer afford to pay for the additional infrastructure improvements required to keep the system from failing. Additionally, 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, nor does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronny Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "J".

Ronny L. Jackson

Member of Congress