Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann Chairman Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies 2362-B Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur Ranking Member Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Fleischmann and Ranking Member Kaptur:

As you begin to develop the Fiscal Year 2026 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, we respectfully request the inclusion of \$134,000,000 in the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources account under the heading Water Conservation and Delivery for water storage projects authorized under Section 4007 of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (Public Law 114-322).

Most of the western United States, from its major cities to its vast and productive agricultural lands and everything in between, was able to develop based on critical investments made by the Federal government, state governments, and local stakeholders to develop water resources through the construction and operation of a network of reservoirs, canals, and other infrastructure that store and move water across the West. These structures continue to play the key role in ensuring western communities have the water they need not to just survive, but to thrive.

Section 4007 of Public Law 114-322 is an important tool to advance critical water storage and infrastructure projects in the western United States. Since Fiscal Year 2017, we want to thank you for providing over \$1.12 billion for this program. Section 4007 funding has been used to support and advance storage projects, along with non-Federal funds, like the Sites Reservoir Project, a 1.5 million acre-feet proposed reservoir in California, the Anderson Ranch Dam Raise Project in Idaho, and the Cle Elum Pool Raise Project in Washington State. This funding has also been used to repair subsidence on the Friant-Kern Canal.

We believe it is essential that funding for this program continue in Fiscal Year 2026, as water infrastructure projects supported through it, in partnership with state and local stakeholders, ensure our constituents can capture and store more water during wet years for use in dry ones. It also helps ensure they can move that water to where it is needed. This is all the more important as western states face increasingly erratic winter storms, uncertain snowpack, and prolonged drought.

Providing level funding of \$134,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2026 for Section 4007 authorized projects to the Bureau of Reclamation will help support important water storage and

infrastructure projects in California and across the western United States – critical investments for the future of our communities that depend on surface water storage.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Doug LaMalfa

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Mike Thompson

Member of Congress

Kevin Kiley

Member of Congress

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mber of Congress

Vince Fong \

Member of Congress

John Garamendi

Member of Congress

Don's Matsui

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Linda T. Sánchez

Member of Congress

Doris Matsui

Member of Congress

Sara Jacobs Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Manette Diaz Barragán

Nanette Diaz Barragán

Member of Congress