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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Seaside Municipal Well Water Security Project. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Seaside, located at 440 Harcourt Avenue, Seaside, CA 93955.

The Seaside Municipal Well Water Project will design and construct a backup potable water well for the Seaside Municipal Water System (SMWS). The SMWS serves 2,947 residents (800 connections). Approximately half the customers are identified by the California Department of Water Resources as a Census Block Group Disadvantaged Community with median income of \$39,750.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the system has one active potable water well that is over 20 years old and experiences reliability issues. The State Division of Drinking Water requires that any community water system using only groundwater shall have a minimum of two approved sources. SMWS does not have a second drinking water well and this project will address that deficiency.

The project has garnered widespread support from local and regional stakeholders, including the City of Seaside and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, underscoring the significance to our community's sustainable water supply development and environmental stewardship. Furthermore, this initiative is especially crucial for serving our low- and moderate-income residents, ensuring equitable access to essential resources. This project will help guarantee an uninterrupted supply of clean, affordable, and reliable water for the residents of Seaside, thereby safeguarding public health and community welfare.

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.

Sincerely,

ATC

Jimmy Panetta Member of Congress