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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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CHAIRMAN

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES.

May 2, 2025

Chairman Tom Cole
Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I request \$5,494,450 for a community project funding request for the Shoshone-Bannock Sheepskin Water Tank Replacement Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The intended recipient is the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes located at PO Box 326, Fort Hall ID, 83203

Funding would be used to construct a new 700,000 gallon water storage tank, expand capacity, and install piping to complete the water loop to address the significant water storage and water pressure problems that the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes are experiencing in their drinking water system. Further, the project will address fire safety concerns by ensuring sufficient water pressure throughout the water system and compliance with fire hydrant spacing requirements. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes expanded their community water system in 1995 after Ethylene Dibromide (EDB) contamination was discovered in order to enable reservation residents in the affected areas to stop using domestic wells. The Tribal water system is critical to provide safe drinking water for the community. In 2023, the Tribes chartered a Water Facilities Planning Study to assess its water system, which found that the current system is inadequate for both current and future water demands for residents. The current tank is experiencing a considerable amount of corrosion on the interior and exterior from coating failure. In addition, storage capacity is insufficient to meet peak demand and the water system is experiencing low water pressure at certain times, especially in the summer. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project will improve an inadequate water system, improve water storage and ensure fire safety for the community.

This 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,

Mike Simpson
Member of Congress