April 25, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC  20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC  20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro & Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $500,000 in funding to protect four exposed sanitary sewer lines that cross the West Fork River, a source of drinking water for many nearby and downstream communities.

The project sponsor is the Greater Harrison Public Service District and is located at 151 Peninsula Park Blvd, West Milford, WV 26408.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and will protect these sewer lines from damage. This project will prevent a devastating impact on the river ecosystem and protect a source of raw drinking water.

Recently, multiple dams were removed from the West Fork River as a part of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife efforts to allow passageways for fish and boats on the river. However, once the dams were removed the water level of the river dropped and exposed these four sanitary sewer lines spanning across the river. These sewer lines are in use and were designed to be below water-level. Since they are fully exposed and now visible, these sewer lines are now highly susceptible to build up of debris, possible damage, or even vandalism. This project was submitted for inclusion in the WVDEP FY2023 Intended Use Plan.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress