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 for engineering fees, legal and fiscal fees, and other professional fees associated with the construction of Mellin Ridge Water Line Extension in the Town of Harrisville.

The project sponsor is the Town of Harrisville and is located at 1501 E Main Street, Harrisville, WV 26362.

The Mellin Ridge community in Ritchie County, located outside of Harrisville city limits to the southwest, is not served by a public water system. Residents currently rely on private wells for their water supply, which are an unreliable source of potable water. These private wells can become contaminated or run dry from overuse. Dry wells result in having potable water hauled in from a private company; this alternative is costly and inconvenient.

Since the Town of Harrisville is the nearest public water system, Mellin Ridge residents have petitioned Harrisville to extend their water distribution system and provide service to their community. Access to Harrisville’s water distribution system would provide a safe and reliable source of potable water to Mellin Ridge residents year-round, improving public health, and overall quality of life in the community.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and it would expand access to clean drinking water to an underserved rural community. As a result of this project, potable water service will be initially provided to approximately 60 new customers and households in Mellin Ridge.

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