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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN
AFRICA
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Sparta Township Lead Service Line Replacement Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Sparta Township, located at 65 Main Street, Sparta, NJ, 07871.

The funding would be used for the replacement of approximately 210 lead and galvanized steel service lines across Sparta Township. This will enable Sparta to accelerate compliance with New Jersey's Service Line Replacement Law (P.L. 2021, Ch. 183), which mandates full replacement of all lead service lines by 2031 to safeguard public health. The project includes comprehensive identification of service line materials through record reviews, inspections, curb box excavations, and water testing, followed by full replacement of any lines confirmed to contain lead or galvanized steel. New copper service lines will be installed from the water main to each building, with temporary water shutoff, excavation, reconnection, system flushing, and full restoration of disturbed surfaces completed efficiently, typically within one to two days. By modernizing essential water infrastructure now, Sparta Township will protect public health, improve water quality, and ensure long term reliability of its drinking water system well ahead of the mandated schedule.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will replace lead and galvanized steel service lines, accelerates compliance with State requirements, reduces future emergency repair costs, and protects the public health.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom H. Kean, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress