

MELANIE A. STANSBURY  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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ACCOUNTABILITY**

RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
DELIVERING ON GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

**COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL LANDS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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March 17, 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 Rio Grande Wastewater System Rehabilitation and Lift Station Replacement project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Rio Rancho, located at 3200 Civic Center Circle NE, Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87144.

The funding would be used to assess, repair, and replace aging wastewater infrastructure that has contributed to the discharge of untreated wastewater into the Rio Grande and surrounding communities. This includes the replacement of sanitary sewer lift stations along the NM 528 corridor and the implementation of system improvements to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and ensure reliable wastewater conveyance.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it protects water quality in the Rio Grande, safeguards public health, and prevents costly environmental damage and emergency repairs associated with wastewater system failures. By addressing infrastructure deficiencies proactively, the project will reduce long-term costs, improve system reliability, and support continued residential and economic stability in the region.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with eligible activities under Section 603(c) of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1383(c)), which authorizes assistance for the construction, repair, and replacement of publicly owned wastewater treatment works, including sewer collection systems, to prevent sanitary sewer overflows and protect water quality. The proposed project will rehabilitate and replace aging wastewater infrastructure, including sanitary sewer lift stations, to improve system capacity, prevent untreated discharges, and ensure compliance with water quality standards.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Melanie Ann Stansbury

Member of Congress

