

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Chairman
The Honorable Mike Simpson, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson:

As you develop the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2020, we urge you to provide \$134 million for surface and groundwater storage projects under Section 4007 of the WIIN Act (Public Law 114-322). This is the same level appropriated in each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019, available for projects across the 17 western "Reclamation" states.

Congress must continue to support forward-looking investments to upgrade surface and groundwater storage in the western United States. As western states face increasingly erratic winter storms, uncertain snowpack, and prolonged drought, we need to be able capture and store more water during wet years for use during dry years. This requires significant federal funding from the Bureau of Reclamation as states work to build resilient water supplies and related infrastructure to meet future needs.

Strong working partnerships between states and the federal government are critical for any successful storage project. In a letter to the Subcommittee dated February 13, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation identified projects for WIIN Act funding including water storage projects in California, Washington, and Idaho. We encourage the Subcommittee to prioritize Reclamation funding for those projects with support from the respective Congressional delegation and state.

Thank you for your leadership on the Subcommittee and for considering this bipartisan request. We look forward to working with you to ensure that our states' water storage needs are met.

Sincerely,


JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress


TOM McCLINTOCK
Member of Congress

TJ COX
Member of Congress

DOUG LaMALFA
Member of Congress

JOSH HARDER
Member of Congress

KIM SCHRIER
Member of Congress

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress