

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Energy and Water, and
Related Agencies
2362B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Energy and Water, and
Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson:

As you develop the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill for FY2020, we respectfully request that you include the following language under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Construction Account:

- “Army Corps Construction, Environmental Infrastructure, \$80,000,000”

Environmental Infrastructure projects provide short- and long-term public benefits, including measurable improvements to public and environmental health through the construction of advanced wastewater treatment systems, and significant job creation.

There are many important projects across the country that could rely on this funding. For example, in South Florida, USACE Environmental Infrastructure funding could be used to construct wastewater treatment systems designed to protect and restore the near shore waters of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Established in 1990, the Sanctuary is a federally recognized flag-ship marine space that protects the only living coral reef in the continental U.S. and the third largest coral reef system in the world. Unfortunately, its existence is in serious jeopardy due to the effects of South Florida’s land-based pollutants – primarily wastewater discharge and storm water runoff.

The USACE Environmental Infrastructure account provides a vital funding source to wastewater projects across the country. As has been shown in the Florida Keys, these projects are essential to protecting our environment and supporting our local economies. We thank you for your consideration of this very important issue.

Sincerely,



Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Member of Congress



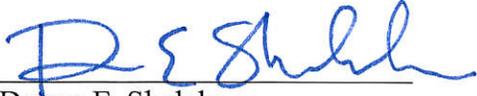
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Member of Congress



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