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May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

## Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Morganza to the Gulf (Morganza) MR&T Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District located at 7400 Leake Ave, New Orleans, LA 70118. The funding would be used to advance critical features of the Morganza system. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Morganza system will protect not only the communities and residents within Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes, but also an industrial base that supports about 20% of our nation's domestically produced oil and natural gas. The system will protect shipyards currently building or repairing vessels for the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA, and NSF. Lastly, nearly \$1 billion has been invested in the Morganza system through local and state funds, with residents taxing themselves for over 20 years to build this hurricane protection infrastructure.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 1001 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-114).

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

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins Member of Congress