April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
House Appropriations Subcommittee
H-310, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
House Appropriations Subcommittee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for a new Water Treatment Plant in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Oak Ridge, located at 1515 Bear Creek Road Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830.

This project is important to the Oak Ridge community, but also vitally important to federal mission work at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the National Nuclear Security Administration’s Y-12 National Security Complex, and the East Tennessee Technology Park. These facilities are in the city limits of Oak Ridge and dependent upon the city’s production of potable water for daily operations. A new 16 MGD membrane plant to be located at the City’s existing raw water intake property is advantageous for several additional reasons. Significant energy savings will be realized because the need to employ an old and inefficient pumping system to the existing plant elevation would be eliminated. With a new WTP, the City would avoid the additional cost of redeveloping an electrical substation needed. The construction of a new plant with contemporary membrane technology will reduce waste, improve public health by producing water with better purity and clarity, and allow the City to meet all federal and state drinking water regulatory requirements, now and in the future. These enhancements increase the reliability and efficiency of water production for customers including the local hospital, public school system, and residents of all socioeconomic backgrounds.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Chuck Fleischmann