COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON, DC 20515 {202} 225-2472 2746 Superior Dr. NW. Suite 100

> 110 N. MINNESOTA ST., SUITE 5 NEW ULM, MN 56073 (507) 577-6151

ROCHESTER, MN 55901

(507) 577-6140

1605 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman House Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Water Tower Rehabilitation Project in Caledonia, MN. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Caledonia, MN, located at 231 E Main Street, Caledonia, MN 55921.

The funding would be used for structural repairs, safety improvements, and re-coating the Caledonia water towers, which need documented structural and safety repairs to comply with OSHA, AWWA, and FAA standards.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because a 2019 inspection report recommended recoating within five years to ensure safety and compliance for the City. There are numerous outdated worker safety features including ladders, catwalks, grates, lighting, manways, self-retracting lifelines, and venting. In addition, Tower 2 was tested and found to have a 15% lead content in the interior dry coating, which must be remediated to comply with state and federal standards. Further, Water Tower 2 suffered ice and water damage in 2023 resulting from improper drainage.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-12.

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

Sincerely,

**Brad Finstad** 

Member of Congress