

February 28, 2020

The Honorable Ann Kirkpatrick United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kirkpatrick,

In 2016, Congress established a competitive grant program within the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse program to provide federal cost-share grant funding for water recycling projects in the arid West. Title XVI is the only active federal program with a focus on water recycling. We write today to thank you for your support for the program in FY 2020, and to ask for your help in securing increased funding for the Title XVI-WIIN program in FY 2021.

Water projects funded through the Title XVI program have been used to increase the supply of drinking water, generate sustainable irrigation water, and help industries expand and create jobs, among other regionally important economic purposes. The program is not limited to the reuse of municipal wastewater—it also helps communities identify beneficial uses for industrial, agricultural, and domestic wastewater, as well as impaired ground and surface water.

There are currently 56 Title XVI-WIIN eligible projects awaiting assistance, with a total of more than \$700 million in eligible federal cost-share. This list will only grow as more projects become eligible. Title XVI-WIIN is an integral part of the federal funding partnership with local communities throughout the West to ensure they have safe and sustainable water supplies to meet demand.

Given the critical role water reuse plays in Arizona's future water management, and given the overwhelming demand for Title XVI-WIIN projects across the West, we respectfully request your assistance in securing at least \$50 million for this program in FY 2021.

Thank you for considering our request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of the signatories listed below.

Sincerely,

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