

DRAFT UTILITY LETTER

DATE

The Honorable (Fill in Senator or House Member)
Washington, D.C.

Dear (Fill-in):

On behalf of the (Fill-in Utility or Community), I am writing to request your direct assistance. As you are aware, the President's "America First" FY 2018 Budget proposes to eliminate the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program.

Our utility currently has an application pending with USDA for \$(Fill-in Number) to expand our current system necessary to meet the growing needs for our community. One purpose for this expansion is to provide increased water capacity to the industrial park necessary for business expansion to create (EXAMPLE - Fill-in Number) new jobs. Without this direct assistance, our community will continue to suffer economically. We have turned to USDA for decades to help our community grow and prosper and consider this a successful, beneficial partnership that has delivered results.

I respectfully request that you include funding for the USDA Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program in the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee's fiscal year 2018 appropriations bill in order to fund our pending application.

We have applied for the USDA program for a simple reason. Our ratepayers can't afford commercial or private financing with the prevailing rates and terms. We are concerned that without this affordable financing, we will not be able to address this critical need that will ultimately negatively impact the quality of life for the residents in (Fill-in Community).

Thank you for your consideration of this request and your continued commitment to rural America.

Sincerely,