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United States Senate

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April 15, 2024

The Honorable Thomas Carper
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelly Capito
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito:

Thank you for your continued leadership on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. I write regarding my request to authorize a U.S.-Mexico Border Region Environmental Infrastructure Program – Environmental Infrastructure Program.

This request asks that a $100 million environmental infrastructure program be authorized under Section 219 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 for water, wastewater, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and other environmental infrastructure in Cochise County, Pima County, Santa Cruz County, and Yuma County in Arizona. The goal is to provide an additional authority which will enable the Corps to partner with non-federal sponsors to water, wastewater, flood control, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and other environmental infrastructure projects in southern Arizona. The U.S.-Mexico Border region experiences unique water challenges related to the hydrology in the U.S.-Mexico border region, and a history of underinvestment in regional water infrastructure. A new environmental infrastructure authority unique to the region will enable the Army Corps to work with border communities on water, wastewater, flood control, and other needs.

In accordance with Senate rules, I attest that neither I nor any immediate family member has a pecuniary interest in this project.

It is no secret that water is essential to sustaining life in the Southwest. Arizona families rely on a stable water supply to cook and drink. Small businesses, tribal communities, farmers, and industry require water to hydrate their crops and herds, for manufacturing processes, and carrying out their operations. In accordance with all existing agency rules, regulations, and ethical guidelines, I respectfully ask that you give this proposal full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

Kyrsten Sinema