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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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March 18, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the *FY27 Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System* in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding is the *Okeechobee Utility Authority*, located at *100 SW 5th Avenue, Okeechobee, FL 34974*. The funding would be used to install an Advanced Metering Infrastructure system across approximately 10,000 potable water meters, including transmitters, communication systems, telemetry, and supporting software to enable real-time monitoring and management of water usage.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will reduce water loss, improve system efficiency, and enhance water conservation through early leak detection and real-time usage data for both the utility and customers.

This project has a federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(2)), which supports rural water and waste disposal infrastructure.

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

Best regards,



Scott Franklin
Member of Congress