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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COAST GUARD AND  
MARITIME TRANSPORTATION  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND  
MARITIME SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERTERRORISM

April 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations,  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations,  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for the Lake Lenape Dam Flood Mitigation project from the BRIC Account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Office of the Atlantic County Improvement Authority, located at 1333 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 700, Atlantic City, NJ, 08401.

This project constitutes an excellent use of taxpayer funds.

The Lake Lenape Dam, located in Mays Landing, New Jersey, is a High-Hazard, Class I Dam, currently rated in POOR condition in an August 2020 inspection. The County has made a tremendous effort to explore all options to mitigate any future damage or catastrophic loss that may be caused because of breach of this 110+ year old dam. No mitigation efforts, however, can account for safety risks or potential loss of life that would be imminent in the event the dam was to collapse.

The area immediately adjacent to and downstream of the spillway is dense residential and commercial development. As Mays Landing is the County Seat of Atlantic County, many key government offices are located within what would surely be a flood path created by a failure of this aged and deteriorated dam. In the most catastrophic scenarios, the resulting flood would inundate nearly half of Mays Landing, resulting in almost certain fatalities, millions of dollars of property damage, and severe damage to downstream critical infrastructure. In short, the threat of

failure of the Lake Lenape Dam is imminent, the potential impacts are calamitous, and the time to address both is now.

To achieve an effective remedy to flooding, and to ensure the long-term stability of the lake, the County's Engineer has concluded that the spillway must be completely replaced with a modern solution. Any provided grant funds will be obligated within the FY22 period to immediately begin construction of the already-developed designs.

This project has unparalleled community support, is eligible and meritorious of BRIC grant funding, and is urgently needed. I urge you to provide this grant funding so that the community can quickly and decisively address this existential threat.

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

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jefferson Van Drew', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

*Jefferson Van Drew*

*April 30, 2021*