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Deputy Clerk

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 17, 2026

The Honorable David Rouzer
United States House of Representatives
2333 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rouzer,

I am writing on behalf of Cumberland County to urgently solicit your support for Cumberland County's FY 2027 Community Project Funding request for \$5.5 million for the Gray's Creek Water and Sewer District Waterline Extension Project. The need for this funding is pressing as parts of Cumberland County have private wells contaminated with GENX and other PFAS chemicals.

Cumberland County is developing a water system to serve the Gray's Creek Water and Sewer District. This much-needed project encompasses developing a water supply, water treatment, transmission, and distribution as crucial components to mitigate the impact of GENX and PFAS contamination in privately owned wells.

The Gray's Creek Phase 1 Project is part of a larger effort to ensure public water supply for affected parcels in the rural areas of the County. It will not only initiate the development and treatment of a reliable water source but also prioritize the distribution of drinking water, ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. Phase 1 of the project includes 500,000 gallons of elevated storage to ensure fire protection at two schools and future expansion of the water system. The funded distribution pipeline is approximately 79,300 linear feet with the potential to serve 486 residential and non-residential connections. The waterline extension in this request will add approximately 22,450 ft to serve approximately 160 residential and non-residential customers, significantly improving their quality of life.

As you are aware, Gray's Creek Water and Sewer District has been impacted by contamination from Chemours. Cumberland County is at the forefront of an emerging contaminant issue as many areas of the County have Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) contaminating drinking water in private wells. The County is aggressively pursuing the development of a public water supply, including exploration of alternative water sources and water line extensions, to provide sustainable and reliable drinking water to affected parcels throughout the County. The critical project would advance these efforts.

Thank you for your continued support of Cumberland County's infrastructure needs and your consideration to support this FY 2027 federal funding request.

Sincerely,

Kirk J. deViere, Chairman
Cumberland County Board of Commissioners



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Henry Tyson
Commissioner, District 2

March 18, 2026

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Henry C. Tyson
Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

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Sustainable Sandhills participates in statewide efforts to mitigate PFAS contamination in the Cape Fear River Basin, and we strongly support the funding of Cumberland County's project to protect the public health of our residents impacted by these chemicals.

Thank you for your continued support of Cumberland County's infrastructure needs and your consideration to support this FY 2027 federal funding request.

Sincerely,



Jonelle Kimbrough
Executive Director
Sustainable Sandhills

SUSTAINABLE SANDHILLS