

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

March 27, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding Water System Backup Generators in Downey, CA. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Downey, located at 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA 90241.

This project will install nine permanent emergency generators with automatic transfer switches (ATS), concrete pads/containment, and associated electrical upgrades at nine key City groundwater wells. Downey produces 100% of its potable water from City-owned groundwater wells and currently lacks permanent backup power for its water supply system. The nine prioritized wells can provide adequate potable water service across the City during power outages. The project will reduce or prevent water service interruptions caused by hazards such as fire, windstorm, and earthquake, protecting public health and sanitation, ensuring fire response/water for firefighting, and reducing the risk of system contamination/back-siphonage during low/no-pressure events.

On December 24, 2024, the City experienced a widespread outage that knocked out power to a majority of the City's groundwater wells, resulting in significant loss of water service for residents and businesses for several hours until power was restored. The outage also disrupted traffic signals, requiring substantial City staff response while attempting to deploy the limited portable generators available. This event underscored the City's vulnerability to prolonged water service disruptions during power outages. The importance of resilient water supply during emergencies was further highlighted by the devastating consequences associated with major wildfire events (e.g., the Pacific Palisades fire).

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress