

Rep. Darrell Issa

Testimony to House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

Member Day – Water Resources Development Act Projects

March 16, 2022

Good morning and thank you to Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves for your leadership on the important issue of water resources development.

My office has submitted funding requests for three projects.

First, the Padre Dam Municipal Water District is a key partner in the East County Advanced Water Purification Program. This collaborative program is helping to drought-proof San Diego County by providing a new source for drinking water and eliminate 15 million gallons per day of treated wastewater discharge. All told, this will support approximately 30 percent of the region's drinking water demand. This project is supported by our colleague Ms. Jacobs and myself.

Second, the Escondido Creek Flood Control Project will help provide design and construction services in a city split between our colleague Mr. Peters and myself. This project will help the City of Escondido manager stormwater, expand groundwater infiltration, improve water quality, and importantly—benefit more than 450 single- and multi-family homes along and around the creek that are currently paying for flood insurance. This project will reduce if not eliminate that need and benefit a diverse and vital part of the city.

Third, as you may know, the 50th Congressional District is home to more federally-recognized tribes than almost all other districts in the country—18 tribal communities in total. The Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians is seeking approximately one mile of water distribution lines, and approximately one mile of reclaimed water pipeline to better facilitate sewer processing and support groundwater recharge. Because the community relies exclusively on groundwater for supplies, this project will help ensure economical and conscientious management of precious water resources and meet conservation objectives.

Each of these projects is supported with robust local funding matches and is recognized by the Army Corps of Engineers as appropriate for designation as Environmental Infrastructure under the Water Development Resources Act.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to present to you today.

I yield back.