

H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
9TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA
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HEALTH – CHAIRMAN
COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY
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March 18, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$2,200,000.00 for Water Transmission Line Relocation project for Bristol, Virginia in fiscal year 2027.

The entity to receive this funding is the BVU Authority, with offices located at 15022 Lee Highway, Bristol, Virginia 24202.

This funding is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars because it will replace approximately 1.5 miles of water transmission line and relocate the water transmission line crossing of Interstate 81 to now go beneath the Exit 13 overpass, where the pipeline will remain accessible for future operation and maintenance. This new alignment will allow the existing pipeline segment buried beneath Interstate 81 to be permanently abandoned while restoring maintainability and reliability of the region's drinking water supply.

The BVU Authority is an independent political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, providing electricity, water, and wastewater services to areas of Southwest Virginia.

The existing 24-inch water transmission line located beneath Interstate 81 is the sole source of drinking water for nearly 8,000 customers in the City of Bristol, Virginia. The pipeline was installed in the early 1950s and later buried beneath more than 30 feet of interstate fill during construction of I-81 in the early 1960s. As a result, this portion of the pipeline is inaccessible for inspection, maintenance, or emergency repair.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. Morgan Griffith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and a long, sweeping underline.

H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
Member of Congress