

October 1, 2009

Rep. Luján Secures \$29 Million for New Mexico Projects in Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Ben Ray Luján voted for the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, which will help spur economic recovery while providing solutions to our energy and water quality needs. The Act also includes significant investments in New Mexico's infrastructure that will build on investments made by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, helping strengthen infrastructure throughout New Mexico. The conference report passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 308 to 114. Once it is approved by the Senate, this bill will go on to the President's office to be signed into law.

“This bill makes important investments in clean energy and infrastructure—investments that will help us move toward energy independence and rebuild our aging water infrastructure,” said Rep. Luján. “I’m encouraged that significant support for New Mexico has been included in the final bill. Clean, accessible water is vital to communities throughout our state, and I’m glad that there is funding for critical systems that will help provide water to our communities.”

The Energy and Water Appropriations Act builds on investments made in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that will help make the United States a leader in clean energy. The Energy and Water Appropriations Act invests in fuel efficient vehicles. It helps modernize our electric grid by investing in smart grid technology that will ensure efficient and reliable delivery of electricity to American homes and businesses. The bill provides increased funding for low-income weatherization grants to improve energy efficiency in homes. The grants will help save families money by reducing electricity and heating costs. The bill also invests in the water infrastructure needs of our communities, improving water quality and accessibility.

The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act also provided \$20 million for the refurbishment of the Los Alamos Neutron Science Center, or LANSCE. It is a quarter-mile long proton accelerator at LANL that provides much-needed support to the nation's innovative science efforts. There is no other facility in the world that can replicate the capability of LANSCE in a cost-effective manner, most notably its ability to do classified experiments and to handle critical science material.

Projects in the Energy and Water Appropriations Act for the Third Congressional District

Project

Amount

Jicarilla Apache Reservation Rural Water System, Dulce, New Mexico (Bureau of Reclamation; Water

3,000,000

Chimayo Water Supply System (Bureau of Reclamation; Water and Related Resources – Rural Water)

233,000

Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System (Bureau of Reclamation; Water and Related Resources – Up

1,000,000

Navajo-Gallup Water Supply (Bureau of Reclamation; Water and Related Resources—Upper Colorado

3,000,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - COCHITI LAKE, NM (The project provides flood damage reduct

6,534,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - CONCHAS LAKE, NM (The project provides flood damage redu

1,707,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - GALISTEO DAM, NM (The project provides flood damage reduction)

562,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NM (Inspection of completed works)

607,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - JEMEZ CANYON DAM, NM (The project provides flood damage reduction)

718,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - MIDDLE RIO GRANDE ENDANGERED SPECIES COLLABORATION

(The MRGESCP is a multi-stakeholder partnership working to protect and improve the status of endangered species)

2,994,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, NM (The Corps provides scheduling of reservoir operations)

453,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - UPPER RIO GRANDE WATER OPERATIONS MODEL STUDY

2,053,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - ESPANOLA VALLEY, RIO GRANDE AND TRIBUTARIES, NM

224,000

US Army Corps of Engineers Project - RIO GRANDE BASIN, NM, CO AND TX (SECTION 729) (The F

103,000

Army Corp of Engineers Project, Acequias Irrigation System, NM

2,422,000

Army Corp of Engineers Project, Investigations, Santa Fe, NM

134,000

Army Corp of Engineers Project, Abiquiu Dam, NM

3,141,000

Army Corp of Engineers Project, Investigations, Tribal Partnership Program, NM

179,000

Total

29,064,000