

MARIE GLUESENKAMP PEREZ  
3RD DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES  
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March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, the Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Northwest Service Area Grid Resiliency in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Cowlitz County Public Utility District No. 1 (Cowlitz PUD) located at 961 12<sup>th</sup> Ave Longview, WA 98632. The funding would be used to reinstall 5.5 miles of electric distribution lines underground, to improve reliability and reduce wildfire risk in the region. This line provides service to roughly 700 residents, including elderly residents who rely on electricity for heating, food storage, and medical equipment. Due to winter storms and the dense forestry in the region, the current infrastructure is prone to power outages.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses a clear public safety, hazard mitigation, and infrastructure reliability need in a rural area with vulnerable residents and limited alternatives. The requested federal funding would reduce the risk of lengthy outages and harden critical utility infrastructure against extreme weather and wildfire conditions.

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/or 5305(a)(5).

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 'MGP'.

Marie Gluesenkamp Perez  
Member of Congress