

Date:

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: U.S. - Mexico: Border Wastewater Infrastructure Program (BWIP) FY19

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum,

I am writing to ask that the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies increase its funding for the **U.S. - Mexico: Border Wastewater Infrastructure Program (BWIP)** to \$15 million for FY 2019. This would match the Senate appropriations bill for FY2019.

Sewage infrastructure in Tijuana, Mexico has been unable to keep up with growth after the inception of NAFTA. Ageing and broken Mexican sewage infrastructure result in raw untreated sewage diversion into San Diego County and onto San Diego beaches. In 2017 the San Diego beach closest to Mexico was closed for 167 days because of contamination. In 2018 this beach has been closed for 63 days. This presents a danger to the health and safety of residents, a threat to Customs and Border Patrol who work in this area and a harm to the local economy. BWIP is a matched funding program that invests in aging infrastructure. Without this funding San Diego County will be gravely harmed.

I respectfully ask that you increase funding for BWIP. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone Number: