Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur Chairwoman Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies H-305 House Committee on Appropriations Washington, DC 20515-6016

The Honorable Mike Simpson Ranking Member Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies H-305 House Committee on Appropriations Washington, DC 20515-6016

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson,

We, the undersigned Members of Congress who represent constituents downstream of the Uranium Mill Tailing Remedial Action (UMTRA) project, urge you to match last year's funding of \$47,833,000 for Fiscal Year 2022. Notably, we believe sustaining the modest increase from the FY21 budget request would save taxpayer dollars by further maximizing productivity and allowing the project to finally be completed within five years.

The Department of Energy (DOE) has been tasked with the cleanup of this site, which includes the largest uranium mill tailings pile relocation in the United States. In September, DOE celebrated the removal of 10 million tons of residual material from the site.

In FY19, a funding increase from \$38 million to \$45 million made the site significantly more efficient, which allowed DOE to move more tailings at less cost per ton. This \$7 million increase allowed the cost per ton to go from \$81 to \$47, with tons per month seeing an increase from 39,000 to 80,000. Once it is complete, the removal of these tailings could result in numerous economic development opportunities for the local community and provide a peace of mind for our downstream constituencies.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and the impact it will have on our constituents.

Sincerely,

John Curtis

Member of Congress

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Grace F. Napolitano Member of Congress

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Other Signers: Raul Grijalva, Ro Khanna, Burgess Owens, Steven Horsford, Judy Chu, Tom O'Halleran, Blake Moore