Project Name:
Water Cluster Development and Innovation Center

Recipient:
City of Ada

Address:
231 S. Townsend Ave, Ada, OK 74820

Amount Requested:
$2,000,000

Project Explanation:
The project would be to create a new Water Cluster Development Innovation Center that would house space for new and emerging businesses, laboratory space, light industrial space, and education spaces needed for the demonstration and sharing of new commercialized technologies. This space would work as an innovation space and include expanded services for scalable technology business support, business incubation, business pitch competitions, and areas where technology could be demonstrated to scientists and investors. The space would also include opportunities for education and workforce development, where Ada’s regional workforce partners could allow students to work with new and emerging technologies that may be utilized by local and rural water systems in the future.

The space will require at least 10,000 square feet of space, with room for some light industrial elements, including bay-doors, incubator offices, and wet-lab spaces. The site would be likely located on a site currently owned by the City of Ada and could be used to either construct a new building or renovate an existing structure. The innovation center would help create new high-paying jobs and significant economic impact over a 5-to-10-year period. We estimate that this project has the potential to support the creation of over 45 new jobs in 5 years and create over $10M in new technology investment for the region. This project will also create innovations that benefit regional and local water systems, especially rural communities. The project is also likely to enhance efforts currently being advanced by the Chickasaw Nation to create greater water resiliency in rural and tribal communities. This is a good use of taxpayer funds as this underwrites a facility that will enable testing, R&D, commercialization, and laboratory space to create a small business innovation cluster to advance job creation economic and workforce development. It will be located next to EPA's Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Center.
April 26, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for a Water Cluster Development and Innovation Center in Ada, Oklahoma in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Ada located at 231 S. Townsend Ave., Ada, OK 74820. The funding would be used for the development of a new Water Cluster Development Innovation Center used for new and emerging businesses, laboratory space, light industrial space, and education spaces needed for the demonstration and sharing of new commercialized technologies.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

TOM COLE
Member of Congress