

April 15, 2025

Senator Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
425 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Tina Smith
United States Senate
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Senators Klobuchar and Smith,

On behalf of Freshwater, I am writing to express our support for Congressionally Directed Spending for the *Mississippi River Pump Station Rehabilitation* project, led by Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS). This investment will ensure the continued delivery of safe, clean drinking water to more than 450,000 people across the East Metro, including communities that rely on SPRWS as a cornerstone of their water infrastructure.

Freshwater Society is a Minnesota-based nonprofit, and a SPRWS customer, dedicated to the protection and sustainable management of our state's water resources. We believe that equitable access to clean water is foundational to public health, environmental resilience, and strong communities. This project exemplifies the kind of long-term investment that is needed to secure those values for current and future generations.

The Fridley Pump Station serves as the main water supply intake and pumping facility drawing from the Mississippi River, and it is the linchpin of the SPRWS system. Upgrading this infrastructure will improve system reliability and support sustainable growth across the region.

We also applaud SPRWS's collaborative and transparent approach in working with its municipal partners, including the City of Maplewood and other East Metro communities. This project reflects a regional commitment to responsible stewardship of our shared water resources, and Freshwater is proud to support it.

We respectfully urge your support for this federal funding request. It aligns with our mission and represents a smart, forward-looking investment in Minnesota's water future. Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,



Michelle Stockness, PE
Executive Director
Freshwater Society