

into compliance with Section 303 (c)(2)(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Federal mandates dictate an increased number of contaminants for which the City must treat wastewater. The existing WWTP was not designed to meet most of the new standards, and therefore must be upgraded. The City is subject to mandatory Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fines until such time as the project is completed. This project will enable the City of Galt to come into compliance with these Federal mandates.

This project represents an appropriate use of taxpayer funds as it responds to EPA mandates to improve wastewater treatment, to provide mitigation against a wider array of water contaminants, in a community acutely impacted by the capital demands of such undertaking.

**INTRODUCING LEGISLATION PROVIDING STRONG LAND PROTECTION INCENTIVES**

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, more than 2 million farms make up America's rural landscape. Ninety-eight percent of these farms are owned by individuals, family partnerships, and family corporations, producing about 86 percent of U.S. agricultural products sold.

The most significant asset held by many of these farmers is their land. In some cases, when the owner of the farm dies, surviving family members must sell portions of the farm to cover their estate tax costs. Today I am introducing legislation to help ensure that families are not forced to sell the farm and that their land resources are available for agricultural and conservation use by future generations.

In 1997, in order to encourage the conservation of sensitive lands and farms, Congress enacted an estate tax exclusion for land placed under a conservation easement. 26 USC 2031(c). That law caps the exclusion at \$500,000. Given the significant rise in land values over the past decade, especially for agricultural regions near urbanizing areas, that cap is now too low to provide a meaningful incentive to many farmers.

My legislation updates and increases the exclusion to \$5 million. By increasing the current cap on the property value that can be ex-

cluded from an estate when the land is protected by a conservation easement from \$500,000 to \$5,000,000 (and by raising the exclusion percentage from 40 percent to 50 percent, this bill will encourage significant additional protection of farmland across our country.

The voluntary placement of a conservation easement on private land is a very effective and successful tool for protecting and conserving our nation's open spaces and sensitive lands. As the American Farmland Trust has written, "We strongly believe that the proper incentives are the most effective way of encouraging landowners to conserve land." This legislation provides strong land protection incentives and will result in the preservation of America's vital farm and ranchlands.

**HONORING MR. JOHN GAMBLE**

**HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a respected leader of Southwest Colorado, Mr. John Gamble of Durango. Mr. Gamble has served the community of Southwest Colorado with distinction for 24 years and is announcing his retirement this month.

In 1985, Mr. Gamble took over the new Southwest Colorado Volunteers of America in Durango, Colorado. Under his strong and steady leadership, the agency grew to provide many critical services to the community. At the beginning of his tenure, Mr. Gamble helped to open a domestic violence shelter to provide a safe haven for those in need. And, in the early 1990s, he led the effort to open a much needed homeless shelter. To fund all of these critical services, Mr. Gamble opened a very successful thrift store and led many colorful and profitable fundraising events. In his spare time, Mr. Gamble served on the Durango City Council, including a term as the mayor of that proud city.

Madam Speaker, I commend Mr. John Gamble for his outstanding service and dedication to the residents of Southwest Colorado. Mr. Gamble clearly has a heart for service and the skills to get the job done. His community is a better place due to his efforts. While we will all miss Mr. Gamble's service and leadership, I ask that you join me in wishing him well upon his retirement.

**PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE**

[Tacoma Emergency Intertie Booster Station]

Item	Quantity	Unit price	Amount
1. Mobilization/Demobilization .....	Lump sum	\$34,000	\$34,000
2. Site Work .....	Lump sum	15,000	15,000
3. Erosion Control .....	Lump sum	2,500	2,500
4. Locate Existing Utilities .....	Lump sum	2,000	2,000
5. Intertie .....	Lump sum	25,000	25,000
6. Booster Pumps (2 x 450 gpm) .....	Lump sum	32,000	32,000
7. Booster Station Building (12' x 16') .....	Lump sum	52,000	52,000
8. Piping, Valves, and Appurtenances .....	Lump sum	80,000	80,000
9. Site Fencing .....	200 LF	28	5,600
10. Surface Restoration .....	Lump sum	5,000	5,000
11. Electrical, Telemetry, and Instrumentation .....	Lump sum	105,000	105,000
12. Primary Power Service .....	Lump sum	15,000	15,000
Subtotal .....			373,100
Sales Tax (8.4%) .....			31,340
Subtotal .....			404,440
Contingency (20%) .....			81,060
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST .....			485,500
Engineering and Administrative Costs (25%) .....			121,000
R.O.W., Easement and/or Land Acquisition .....			—

**EARMARK DECLARATION**

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2996, the Fiscal Year 2010 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

(1) \$333,000 for the City of Buckley, WA for an emergency intertie booster station.

Requesting Entity: City of Buckley, PO Box 1960, 933 Main Street, Buckley, WA 98321

Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

Account: STAG

Funding requested by: Rep. DAVE REICHERT

The City of Buckley will construct an emergency intertie booster station to allow the City to use water from the City of Tacoma in an emergency. The City of Tacoma water system in this area operates with a hydraulic grade line of 810 feet. The City of Buckley water system operates with a hydraulic grade line of 882 feet. Therefore the booster station is required to overcome a static head of approximately 72 feet. The City's largest water source is the S. Prairie Creek surface water source. The City's water right for this source is 900 gpm. To allow the system to operate effectively with the S. Prairie Creek source out of service, the booster station will have a capacity of 900 gpm. The booster station will be constructed in right-of-way in a location close to existing City of Buckley and City of Tacoma water infrastructure.

**Finance Plan:**

City of Buckley, Budget Details: This request is for federal funding in the amount of \$550,000 to construct an emergency water intertie and booster station between the City of Tacoma's transmission main and the City of Buckley's water system. As illustrated below in the engineering cost estimate, approximately, \$121,000 is for administration & engineering; and \$485,000 for construction. The City of Buckley is currently working on a major flood damaged repair to our primary transmission water main, but will be able to allocate \$57,000 as a match towards this project.