



The City of Lansing

Office of the Mayor
www.lansingsks.org

March 1, 2025

The Honorable Cameron Hamilton
Senior Official Performing the Duties of FEMA Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
P O Box 10055
Hyattsville MD 20702-8055

RE: Support for Upgrades to Leavenworth Waterworks Infrastructure

Mr. Hamilton,

On behalf of the governing body of the City of Lansing, as well as our residents, we wish to express support for the Leavenworth Waterworks application for assistance through FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program.

The reliable supply of clean water is critical to the economic vitality and health of our communities. However, the severe degradation of the Missouri Riverbed has created a critical vulnerability to our water supply. During low-flow winter months, the raw water inlets at the North Water Treatment Intake become exposed, jeopardizing the ability to provide essential water service to approximately 60,000 residents, businesses, and vital institutions. *The low flows are exacerbated by drought conditions, induced by low rainfall and snowfall throughout the Missouri River basin.*

Leavenworth Waterworks has employed the engineering firm Black & Veatch to study the current infrastructure and explore solutions. Long-term, the most efficient and lowest total cost solution is to construct a second treatment train at their South Water Treatment Plant and consolidate operations. *However, the required upgrades are estimated to cost as much as \$57 million causing water rates to rise 10-15% EACH of the next five years.*

The financial burden of this critical infrastructure upgrade is substantial. We believe that federal investment in the Leavenworth Waterworks' South Water Treatment Plant is a critical step towards ensuring the long-term health, safety, and economic prosperity of our community.

Sincerely,

Anthony R. McNeill
Mayor
City of Lansing
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