

November 28, 2023

Economic Development Administration
Disaster Supplemental Funding

I am writing this letter in strong support of Leslie Messer and Richland Economic Development Corp. applying for the EDA's Disaster Supplemental Funding. The objective of applying for this funding is to create an economic diversification strategy and a revised comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDS).

The timing of this project is ideal, as the economy has had several negative hits and impacts with the closures of MDU Lewis & Clark generation plant, Sidney Sugars processing plant, Norby Trucking, and inevitably, the Westmoreland Savage Coal Mine. The development of the economic diversification strategy and revision of our CEDS will lay the groundwork for future and focused development.

The City of Sidney supports the application to EDA for the Richland County Economic Diversification Strategy and revised CEDS.

Thank you for your consideration of this effort.

Sincerely,

Rick Norby, Mayor
City of Sidney