



**Greg Gianforte**  
**Congress of the United States**

**Montana**

April 17, 2018

Ms. Lindsay Volpe  
Renewable Resource Grant and  
Loan Program Manager  
Department of Natural Resources  
and Conservation  
1539 Eleventh Ave.  
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Ms. Volpe,

I am submitting this letter in support of the Milk River Project Joint Board of Control's (MRJBOC) grant proposal to replace Drop 2 through a collaboration of grant and private funding opportunities, one being through the Department of Natural Resource and Conservation (DNRC) Renewable Resource Grant.

Built over 100 years ago, many components of the St. Mary facility such as Drop 2 have exceeded their design life and are in dire need of repair or replacement. Sudden failure of this Drop, or any component of the St. Mary diversion, would be catastrophic to all 18,000 users along the Milk River basin.

With a future that predicts increased demands and continued repair, maintenance and rehabilitation is critical to these facilities. This project would be significant to many Montanans, and I encourage careful consideration of the grant. Please accept this letter of my support for the grant application and proposed project.

Sincerely,



Greg Gianforte  
Member of Congress