

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 7, 2017

Mr. Ryan A. Fisher  
Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
108 Army Pentagon  
Washington, D.C., 20310-0108

We are writing to express support for the Kansas River Basin Study new start in the General Investigations program to address long term water resources problems in the basin and recommend comprehensive solutions.

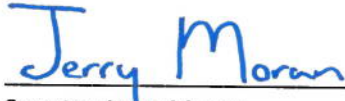
There are significant needs in the areas of flood risk management, water supply, drought preparedness, habitat restoration, and other related purposes. The most populated and rapidly growing areas of the State depend upon Corps of Engineers lakes for flood protection and water supply. The State depends upon Corps lakes for 60 percent of its municipal and industrial water supply needs, and projections indicate the demand will exceed the available supplies sooner than previously anticipated. Reservoir storage is filling with sediment and exacerbating the problem, the lakes have aging infrastructure, and there is need for updated system operations. Additionally, there is a serious recurring issue from toxic algal blooms that are a direct threat to livestock and humans in contact through recreation and other purposes, and water quality and water supply and treatment facilities. In order to enable infrastructure projects, operational changes and other improvements to effectively sustain flood protection, water supply and related resources, and protect the environment, a focused, multi-agency planning process is required.

A unique opportunity exists now in the Kansas River Basin for a partnership between State of Kansas and the Corps of Engineers in making possible the implementation of priority actions in time to greatly reduce the risk of future economic hardship, increased risk to life and property, and environmental degradation. Through the State's comprehensive 50-year Long-Term Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas, we have proactively begun the process of systematically addressing the key areas of need and risk. Because of the 18 federal reservoirs in the state and the reliance on that system for critical water and related resources, this project is necessary to empower the Corps of Engineers to participate in substantially and meaningfully while realizing that vision.

With all this in mind, we support the allocations of General Investigations funds for a new start study, and look forward to the prospect of future water planning discussions. Please do not hesitate to contact our staff members should you require any additional information. For Senator Moran, contact Jordan Ebert at [jordan\\_ebert@moran.senate.gov](mailto:jordan_ebert@moran.senate.gov). For Senator Roberts, contact Will Stafford at [will\\_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](mailto:will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov). For Congresswoman Jenkins, please contact Adam York at [adam.york@mail.house.gov](mailto:adam.york@mail.house.gov). For Congressman Kevin Yoder, please contact Taylor Huhn at

[taylor.huhn@mail.house.gov](mailto:taylor.huhn@mail.house.gov). For Congressman Roger Marshall, please contact Dalton Henry at [dalton.henry@mail.house.gov](mailto:dalton.henry@mail.house.gov). For Congressman Ron Estes, please contact Tanner Tempel at [tanner.tempel@mail.house.gov](mailto:tanner.tempel@mail.house.gov).

Yours truly,



Senator Jerry Moran



Senator Pat Roberts



Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins, CPA



Congressman Kevin Yoder



Congressman Roger Marshall, M.D.



Congressman Ron Estes