

October 6, 2022

Ms. Debbie Messmer
State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Virginia Department of Emergency Management
9711 Farrar Ct.
Richmond, VA 23236
www.vaemergency.gov

RE: Support for Greene County's BRIC Grant Application

Dear Ms. Messmer,

I am writing in support of the County of Greene, Virginia's application for FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) FY22 Grant, through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. The construction of a pumped storage reservoir and water treatment plant will secure drinking water for the rural community for the next 50 years.

As the Rapidan River flows, so does drinking water in Greene and Orange counties and beyond into the Rappahannock River communities. Greene County lies at the headwaters of the river and a prolonged drought in 2002 required humans stationed on the riverbed to direct water into the pumps to provide adequate drinking water for Greene. Orange County lies below Greene and also utilizes the Rapidan River for its drinking water. Due to the geologic makeup of the Piedmont along the Blue Ridge Mountains, it is not possible to utilize wells to provide drinking water to the community. The submitted application displays the need for Greene County to build the project to mitigate future droughts and secure safe drinking water for residents.

The proposed project meets the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission's (TJPDC) draft 2023 regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as a high-priority need for Greene County, as approved by VDEM and currently under FEMA review.

Thank you for the consideration of this request and the positive impacts these improvements will provide for Greene County. If you have any questions for the TJPDC or if you need additional information, please contact Christine Jacobs at cjacobs@tjpd.org.

Sincerely,

Christine Jacobs
Executive Director