

**Report to Congress for Future Water Resources Development (WRRDA 7001) Submission
Package**

Proposal Name: Modification to Southern and Eastern Kentucky -- Section 531 Environmental Infrastructure Program

Submission Date: 08/27/2019

Proposal ID Number: d8f2547a-a1ef-4e9c-be8d-3cfb51490389

Purpose of Proposal: Section 531 program appropriations have reached the authorized program limit of \$40,000,000. Also, four adjacent counties have been identified for inclusion due to similar geography and environmental infrastructure needs. Additional authorization and appropriations are needed to continue fulfilling the program purpose: to provide design and construction assistance to non-Federal interests for carrying out water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects. Projects include wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply and related facilities, and surface water resource protection and development. This modification relates to the USACE mission by providing vital public engineering services to energize the economy. This request is consistent with authorities that created the program: Sec. 531 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996 (PL 104-303); as amended by Sec. 532 of the WRDA of 1999 (PL 106-53); as amended by Sec. 127 of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2003 (PL 108-7); as amended by Sec. 5078 of the WRDA of 2007 (PL 110-114). This modification is needed to advance projects that stand ready to provide safe drinking water and sanitary wastewater treatment in a geographic area that makes these improvements necessary and cost-prohibitive for local sponsors to complete alone. Steep terrain and rocky or nonporous soil in these Appalachian counties preclude traditional septic systems in some areas. Failing septic systems and “straight pipes” from homes to waterways threaten water quality. Public sewer service is needed but costly in the terrain (sometimes requiring grinder pumps, etc.). Local sponsors in the high-poverty area struggle to pay. This program responds well by facilitating design and construction of innovative wastewater treatment systems for the geography and providing the final “boost” when traditional funding sources are maxed out.

1. Administrative Details

**Proposal Name: Modification to Southern and Eastern Kentucky
- Section 531 Environmental Infrastructure Program**

**by Agency: Eastern Kentucky PRIDE (Personal Responsibility In
a Desirable Environment), Inc.**

Locations: KY

POC Name:

POC Phone:

POC Email:

Date Submitted: 08/27/2019

Confirmation Number: d8f2547a-a1ef-4e9c-be8d-3cfb51490389

Supporting Documents

File Name	Date Uploaded
Section 531 Modification Support Letters.pdf	08/27/2019
Section 531 Modification Map.pdf	08/27/2019
Congressman Rogers PRIDE 531.pdf	08/27/2019

2. Provide the name of the primary sponsor and all non-Federal interests that have contributed or are expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.

Sponsor	Letter of Support
<p>Eastern Kentucky PRIDE (Personal Responsibility In a Desirable Environment), KY Department for Local Government; and Southern and Eastern Kentucky’s area development districts and local communities(Primary)</p>	<p>Support is stated by a nonprofit, 6 area development districts (ADDs), and 3 local governments, representing the network of partners effectively implementing the Section 531 program since its creation as part of Southern and Eastern Kentucky’s PRIDE (Personal Responsibility In a Desirable Environment) initiative, which unites local, state, and federal resources to improve the environment, especially water quality. The nonprofit Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc. (PRIDE) coordinates the initiative. Non-Federal partners include ADDs, local governments, utilities, and state agencies. PRIDE supports this modification based on its “big picture” view of the program’s success in solving water quality problems from inadequate wastewater infrastructure across the area. The program has invested \$53 million to bring sanitary wastewater treatment service to 13,199 homes (and 100s of businesses and many schools). PRIDE gets many requests to tap USACE expertise and funds via Section 531, so there is clear need to raise its authorization limit. All ADDs in the region support this modification because they witness the program’s impact in their counties. They help communities develop infrastructure projects and are aware of many important projects that stay on the drawing board due to tight non-Federal funds in the high-poverty area. This modification will move projects from planning to reality. 3 prior local sponsors were asked to write support letters. They used the program to expand wastewater treatment service and want to continue that progress, for the health of their citizens, environment, and economies. In Pike County, 545 homes gained service with \$1,802,000 in Federal funds. For the City of Burnside, \$857,000 in Federal funds were key to finally complete a costly collection system (with low-pressure components) that replaced 818 failing septic systems. With \$900,000 in Federal funds, Pulaski County ran lines to replace 87 failing septic systems in a neighborhood with poor soil.</p>

3. State if this proposal is for new feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing feasibility study authority, a modification to an existing USACE project authority, or a modification to an existing USACE Environmental Infrastructure Program authority. If it is a proposal for a modification to an existing study, project or program authority, provide the authorized water resources development feasibility study or project name.

[x] Modification to a USACE Environmental Infrastructure Program Authority

Environmental Infrastructure Program Authority Name:

Southern and Eastern Kentucky - Section 531 Environmental Infrastructure Program

Description of assistance provided to date:

The Section 531 program has invested \$39,997,348 in Federal funds and \$13 million in non-Federal funds. It has provided design and construction assistance to 83 environmental infrastructure projects, 74 of which are complete. Those projects have made profound impacts in the quality of life in the region. The wastewater treatment projects have affected 13,199 homes -- as well as 100s of businesses and many schools. The water projects have affected 7,743 homes.

Total Federal cost of assistance provided to date:

\$39,997,348

4. Clearly articulate the specific project purpose(s) of the proposed study or modification. Demonstrate that the proposal is related to USACE mission and authorities and specifically address why additional or new authorization is needed.

Section 531 program appropriations have reached the authorized program limit of \$40,000,000. Also, four adjacent counties have been identified for inclusion due to similar geography and environmental infrastructure needs. Additional authorization and appropriations are needed to continue fulfilling the program purpose: to provide design and construction assistance to non-Federal interests for carrying out water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects. Projects include wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply and related facilities, and surface water resource protection and development. This modification relates to the USACE mission by providing vital public engineering services to energize the economy. This request is consistent with authorities that created the program: Sec. 531 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996 (PL 104-303); as amended by Sec. 532 of the WRDA of 1999 (PL 106-53); as amended by Sec. 127 of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act of 2003 (PL 108-7); as amended by Sec. 5078 of the WRDA of 2007 (PL 110-114). This modification is needed to advance projects that stand ready to provide safe drinking water and sanitary wastewater treatment in a geographic area that makes these improvements necessary and cost-prohibitive for local sponsors to complete alone. Steep terrain and rocky or nonporous soil in these Appalachian counties preclude traditional septic systems in some areas. Failing septic systems and “straight pipes” from homes to waterways threaten water quality. Public sewer service is needed but costly in the terrain (sometimes requiring grinder pumps, etc.). Local sponsors in the high-poverty area struggle to pay. This program responds well by facilitating design and construction of innovative wastewater treatment systems for the geography and providing the final “boost” when traditional funding sources are maxed out.

5. *To the extent practicable, provide an estimate of the total cost, and the Federal and non-Federal share of those costs, of the proposed study and, separately, an estimate of the cost of construction or modification.*

	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
Study	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$80,000,000	\$26,666,667	\$106,666,667

Explanation (if necessary)

These numbers reflect the increased authorization limit for the Section 531 program, as proposed in this Section 7001 modification request. The Section 531 program has expended its current Federal authorization of \$40 million. Based on the Section 531 program's 75_25 cost share, to date more than \$13 million in non-Federal funds have been invested and total costs have been more than \$53 million. This Section 7001 modification request proposes increasing the Federal authorization to \$80,000,000, which would bring the non-Federal share to \$26,666,667 and total costs to \$106,666,667 due to the 75_25 cost share. If approved, this proposed \$40 million increase in the Federal authorization would leverage an additional \$13,333,333 in non-Federal funds and make possible a \$53,333,333 total investment in new environmental infrastructure projects.

6. To the extent practicable, describe the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.

The monetary benefit of this proposal will be to infuse an additional \$40 million in Federal funds into vital environmental infrastructure projects in the high-poverty program area. Based on the 75_25 cost share, the new Federal funds will leverage an additional \$13 million in non-Federal funds, resulting in a \$53 million total investment in new environmental infrastructure projects. The nonmonetary benefits will be protection of human life, the environment, and the economy, due to extension of sanitary wastewater treatment services in an area that desperately needs it. When the PRIDE initiative began in 1997, 36,000 straight pipes were identified in its service area (slightly larger than the Section 531 program area). Thanks to the Section 531 program and other federal funds marshalled through the PRIDE initiative, 33,000 homes have gained access to public sewer service. The Section 531 program has been critical to this success because the program facilitates design and construction of innovative wastewater treatment systems for the region's unique geographic challenges or provides the final "boost" needed to jumpstart projects that have maximized traditional funding sources. Specifically, Section 531 has provided design and construction assistance to 83 projects, 74 of which are complete. The wastewater treatment projects have affected 13,199 homes -- as well as 100s of businesses and many schools. The water projects have affected 7,743 homes. Those projects have made profound impacts on public health and quality of life by reducing the amount of untreated and undertreated wastewater entering local waterways. The projects also have stimulated economic development because businesses are more likely to locate and expand in communities that offer wastewater treatment infrastructure. As an added economic benefit, clean waterways are a valuable asset to recruit tourists to the scenic region, so improving wastewater treatment is critical.

7. Does local support exist? If 'Yes', describe the local support for the proposal.

Yes

Local Support Description

Local support for this proposal is evidenced by the non-Federal funds committed by local sponsors through the Section 531 program to date and by the persistent requests to access the program. So far, local sponsors have invested more than \$13 million in non-Federal funds as required by the Section 531 program's 75% cost share. Non-Federal funding sources have included city governments, county governments, local utilities, KY Department for Local Government, and KY Infrastructure Authority. If this Section 7001 modification request is approved, there are multiple local communities willing to invest non-Federal funds to leverage the Section 531 program's Federal funds for essential environmental improvement projects. The local sponsors and the USACE districts that participate in the Section 531 program (Huntington, Louisville, Nashville) continually receive requests from local communities that need the program to design and construct wastewater and water projects that would improve their local economy, public health, and quality of life. This local demand for the Section 531 program continues because the need for it has not diminished. The program area's geography creates environmental infrastructure challenges that are intransigent; the steep rocky terrain precludes onsite wastewater treatment and requires expensive methods to extend sewer lines, as well as water lines.

8. Does the primary sponsor named in (2.) above have the financial ability to provide for the required cost share?

Yes

Primary Sponsor Letter of Support

(This is as uploaded, a blank page will show if nothing was submitted)

Section 531 Modification Support Letters.pdf



August 5, 2019

Headquarters
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20314-1000

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc., I respectfully request your consideration of our proposal to modify the project authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure Project (Section 531 Program) to increase its Federal project authorization from \$40 million to \$80 million for the purpose of fulfilling the unmet need for sanitary wastewater treatment infrastructure. In addition, we request that the following Kentucky counties be added to the project area: Boyd County, Carter County, Elliott County and Lincoln County.

The Section 531 program was created as part of the PRIDE initiative, which improves water quality, resolves solid waste problems and promotes environmental education in Appalachian Kentucky. Eastern Kentucky PRIDE is the nonprofit organization that steers the initiative, but communities do the work.

In the case of the Section 531 program, Eastern Kentucky PRIDE aids in selection of projects because we are familiar with the need for wastewater infrastructure across the region. The 25% match is provided not by Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, but rather by the local agencies that are awarded Section 531 funds.

The Section 531 program was created to meet a need that persists. The terrain in these Appalachian counties can be very steep, which means that homes often do not have enough flat land to allow for a traditional septic system. In addition, soil conditions are rocky or nonporous, which prevents percolation. Even for homeowners with land suitable for traditional septic system, the installation costs are prohibitive, given our region's high poverty level.

As a result, our region's water quality is threatened by untreated or undertreated wastewater from failing septic systems or "straight pipes" from homes into nearby ditches or waterways. When the PRIDE initiative began in 1997, 36,000 straight pipes were identified across our original 38-county service area (which is slightly larger than the area served by the Section 531 program).

The Section 531 program is structured and implemented soundly for this challenge. The program facilitates design and construction of innovative wastewater treatment systems that respond to the region's unique geographic challenges. Also, the program provides the final "boost" needed to jumpstart projects that have maximized traditional funding sources. This is important because projects here can be extremely expensive when costly methods — such as low-pressure lines and grinder pumps — are required to transport wastewater up and down the region's mountainous terrain.



Eastern Kentucky PRIDE
August 5, 2019
Page 2

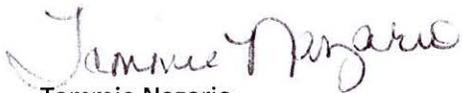
The Section 531 program has invested \$39,997,348.31 in federal funds in 83 projects across the region, 74 of which are complete. Those projects have made profound impacts in the quality of life in the region, and they are deeply appreciated. The wastewater treatment projects have affected 13,199 homes — as well as hundreds of businesses and many schools. The water projects have affected 7,743 homes.

Despite progress in expanding the region's wastewater infrastructure, the need for the Section 531 program continues. The obstacle of geography, in particular, endures. Our office regularly receives inquiries from local governments and public utilities that want to keep their local waterways clean and their citizens healthy, but they need financial and technical assistance for costly, challenging wastewater treatment infrastructure. We also hear from low-income homeowners who are desperate to replace failing septic systems and would benefit from access to public sewer service.

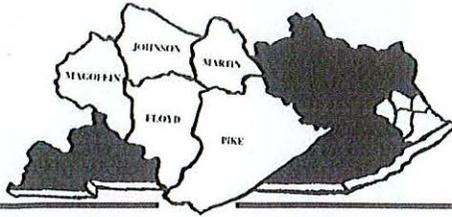
In summary, the Section 531 program has been an irreplaceable tool in Southern and Eastern Kentucky's PRIDE initiative to improve water quality by expanding sanitary sewer service across our rocky, steep terrain. Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, which spearheads the PRIDE initiative, proposes that the Section 531 program be continued by increasing its Federal project authorization and extending the program area to include four adjacent counties with similar terrain and wastewater treatment challenges. These modifications are justified by the unmet need for adequate sanitary sewer services in this region.

I appreciate your consideration of this proposal. If you have any questions, please call me at 606-677-6150.

Sincerely,



Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.



BIG SANDY
AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.
110 RESOURCE COURT
PRESTONSBURG, KY 41653

August 12, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

I am writing to express support for Eastern Kentucky PRIDE's proposal to increase the federal authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure program, which is also called the Section 531 program. This program is an important tool in achieving the goal we share in the PRIDE region: improving our water quality.

My community has benefitted from the Section 531 program in the past, and our need for the program still exists. Section 531 funds have allowed us to expand our wastewater treatment facilities and serve more customers, and our goal is to continue that progress, for the health of our citizens and environment.

Due to the steep terrain and soil conditions in our area, onsite wastewater treatment is simply impossible for many homeowners. As a result, public sewer service is the most effective wastewater treatment method. Unfortunately, it is very expensive to build the infrastructure required to meet this demand and overcome the challenging terrain.

The Section 531 funds have provided a much-needed boost to our rural community's costly, but vital wastewater treatment projects. In addition, the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been excellent partners in our Section 531 projects, and we welcome the opportunity to work with them on new projects.

In summary, my community has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely,

Ben Hale
Executive Director
Big Sandy Area Development District

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Cumberland Valley Area Development District
P.O. Box 1740
342 Old Whitley Road
London, KY 40743-1740

Secretary
Ms. Maureen "Cookie" Henson
Clay County

Treasurer
Mr. John Ed Pennington
Clay County

Executive Director
Ms. Whitney Chesnut

August 5, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

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In summary, my community has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Whitney Chesnut".

Whitney Chesnut
Executive Director

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FIVCO

AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

32 FIVCO Court
Grayson, Kentucky 41143
TTY 1-800-648-6056

Telephone: (606) 929-1366
FAX: (606) 929-1390
E-Mail: sherry@fivco.org

August 26, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

I am writing to express Fivco Area Development District's support for Eastern Kentucky PRIDE's proposal to increase the federal authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure program, which is also called the Section 531 program. This program is an important tool in achieving the goal we share in the PRIDE region: improving our water quality.

My community has benefitted from the Section 531 program in the past, and our need for the program still exists. Section 531 funds have allowed us to expand our wastewater treatment facilities and serve more customers, and our goal is to continue that progress, for the health of our citizens and environment.

Due to the steep terrain and soil conditions in our area, onsite wastewater treatment is simply impossible for many homeowners. As a result, public sewer service is the most effective wastewater treatment method. Unfortunately, it is very expensive to build the infrastructure required to meet this demand and overcome the challenging terrain.

The Section 531 funds have provided a much-needed boost to our rural community's costly, but vital wastewater treatment projects. In addition, the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been excellent partners in our Section 531 projects, and we welcome the opportunity to work with them on new projects.

President, Keith Walker;
1st Vice-President, CJ/E Robert Carpenter; 2nd Vice-President, Allen Gillum;
Secretary, Mayor Steve Gilmore; Treasurer, Mayor Harold Slone

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Page 2

Ms. Tammie Nazario

August 26, 2019

In summary, my community has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherry Hall McDavid". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end of the last word.

Sherry Hall McDavid
Executive Director

GATEWAY AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Joshua A. Farrow, Executive Director • joshua.farrow@ky.gov

110 Lake Park Drive • Morehead, KY 40351 • gwadd.org

P 606.780.0090 • F 606.780.0111 • TDD 800.372.2907

August 5, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

I am writing to express support for Eastern Kentucky PRIDE's proposal to increase the federal authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure program, which is also called the Section 531 program. This program is an important tool in achieving the goal we share in the PRIDE region: improving our water quality.

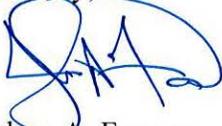
My region has benefitted from the Section 531 program in the past, and our need for the program still exists. Section 531 funds have allowed us to expand our wastewater treatment facilities and serve more customers, and our goal is to continue that progress, for the health of our citizens and environment.

Due to the steep terrain and soil conditions in our area, onsite wastewater treatment is simply impossible for many homeowners. As a result, public sewer service is the most effective wastewater treatment method. Unfortunately, it is very expensive to build the infrastructure required to meet this demand and overcome the challenging terrain.

The Section 531 funds have provided a much-needed boost to our rural region's costly, but vital wastewater treatment projects. In addition, the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been excellent partners in our Section 531 projects, and we welcome the opportunity to work with them on new projects.

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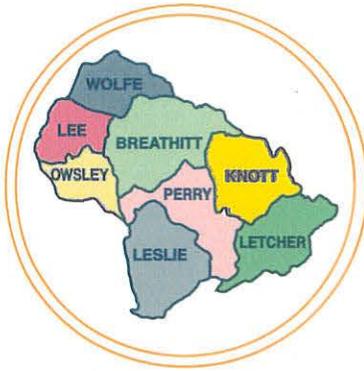


Joshua A. Farrow
Executive Director



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August 5, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

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In summary, my community has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely,

Michelle Allen
Executive Director

CHAIRMAN
Scott Alexander
Judge/Executive
VICE-CHAIRMAN
Pam Pilgrim
TREASURER
Tracy Neice
Mayor
SECRETARY
Terry Adams
Judge/Executive
PARLIAMENTARIAN
Jack Burkich

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Dale Bishop
Derrick Bowling
Freddie Combs
Gregory Whitson
Meriwether Wash Hall
Pam Pilgrim
Shirley Halcomb

Executive Director

Michelle Allen

E-Mail: michelle@kradd.org
FAX NUMBER 606-436-2144
TDD NUMBER 1-800-247-2510
(Hearing Impaired)

Lake Cumberland Area Development District, Inc.

P.O. Box 1570, Russell Springs, Kentucky 42642-1570

DARRYL McGAHA
Executive Director

JUDGE JOHN PHELPS JR.
Chairman

Ph: (270) 866-4200
FAX: (270) 866-2044
TDD: 1-800-648-6056

August 5, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

I am writing to express support for Eastern Kentucky PRIDE's proposal to increase the federal authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure program, which is also called the Section 531 program. This program is an important tool in achieving the goal we share in the PRIDE region: improving our water quality.

My community has benefitted from the Section 531 program in the past, and our need for the program still exists. Section 531 funds have allowed us to expand our wastewater treatment facilities and serve more customers, and our goal is to continue that progress, for the health of our citizens and environment.

Due to the steep terrain and soil conditions in our area, onsite wastewater treatment is simply impossible for many homeowners. As a result, public sewer service is the most effective wastewater treatment method. Unfortunately, it is very expensive to build the infrastructure required to meet this demand and overcome the challenging terrain.

The Section 531 funds have provided a much-needed boost to our rural community's costly, but vital wastewater treatment projects. In addition, the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been excellent partners in our Section 531 projects, and we welcome the opportunity to work with them on new projects.

In summary, my community has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely,



Darryl McGaha
Executive Director
Lake Cumberland Area Development District



Adair • Casey • Clinton • Cumberland • Green
McCreary • Pulaski • Russell • Taylor • Wayne

Web-Site Address - <http://lcadd.org>





Office of Pike County Judge/Executive

RAY S. JONES, II

PIKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
146 MAIN STREET
PIKEVILLE, KENTUCKY 41501
OFFICE: (606) 432-6247
FAX: (606) 432-6242

August 19, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

On behalf of the Pike County Fiscal Court and the Office of the Pike County Judge/Executive, I am writing to express support for Eastern Kentucky PRIDE's proposal to increase the federal authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure program which is also called the Section 531 program. This program is an important tool in achieving the goal we share in the PRIDE region--improving our water quality.

Pike County has benefitted from the Section 531 program in the past, and our need for the program still exists. Section 531 funds have allowed us to expand our wastewater treatment facilities and serve more customers, and our goal is to continue that progress for the health of our citizens and environment.

Due to the steep terrain and soil conditions in our area, onsite wastewater treatment is simply impossible for many homeowners. As a result, public sewer service is the most effective wastewater treatment method. Unfortunately, it is very expensive to build the infrastructure required to meet this demand and overcome the challenging terrain.

The Section 531 funds have provided a much-needed boost to our rural community's costly, but vital wastewater treatment projects. In addition, the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been excellent partners in our Section 531 projects, and we welcome the opportunity to work with them on new projects.

Pike County has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again, and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely,

Ray S. Jones, II
Pike County Judge/Executive



Stephen B. Kelley Jr.

Pulaski County Judge Executive
skelley@pcgovt.com

P.O. Box 712
Somerset, Ky 42502

August 5, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

I am writing to express support for Eastern Kentucky PRIDE's proposal to increase the federal authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure program, which is also called the Section 531 program. This program is an important tool in achieving the goal we share in the PRIDE region: improving our water quality.

My community has benefitted from the Section 531 program in the past, and our need for the program still exists. Section 531 funds have allowed us to expand our wastewater treatment facilities and serve more customers, and our goal is to continue that progress, for the health of our citizens and environment.

Due to the steep terrain and soil conditions in our area, onsite wastewater treatment is simply impossible for many homeowners. As a result, public sewer service is the most effective wastewater treatment method. Unfortunately, it is very expensive to build the infrastructure required to meet this demand and overcome the challenging terrain.

The Section 531 funds have provided a much-needed boost to our rural community's costly, but vital wastewater treatment projects. In addition, the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have been excellent partners in our Section 531 projects, and we welcome the opportunity to work with them on new projects.

In summary, my community has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen B. Kelley Jr.", written over a white background.

Stephen B. Kelley Jr.
Pulaski County Judge Executive



CITY OF BURNSIDE

7929 S. Highway 27

P. O. Box 8

BURNSIDE, KY 42519-0008

clerk@burnsidecitygovernment.com



Telephone (606)561-4113

Fax (606)561-6604

August 12, 2019

Tammie Nazario
President/CEO
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc.
2292 S. Hwy. 27
Somerset, KY 42501

Dear Ms. Nazario:

I am writing to express support for Eastern Kentucky PRIDE's proposal to increase the federal authorization for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure program, which is also called the Section 531 program. This program is an important tool in achieving the goal we share in the PRIDE region: improving our water quality.

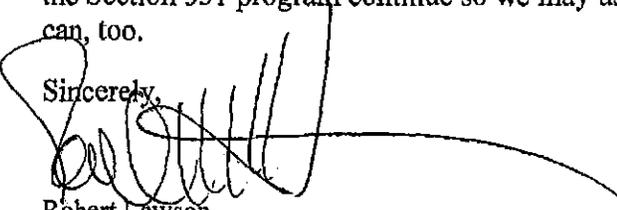
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In summary, my community has an ongoing need for funding and technical assistance to provide the wastewater treatment infrastructure that is essential to our geography. We would like to see the Section 531 program continue so we may use it again and so other communities in our region can, too.

Sincerely,


Robert Lawson

Map Document

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Section 531 Modification Map.pdf

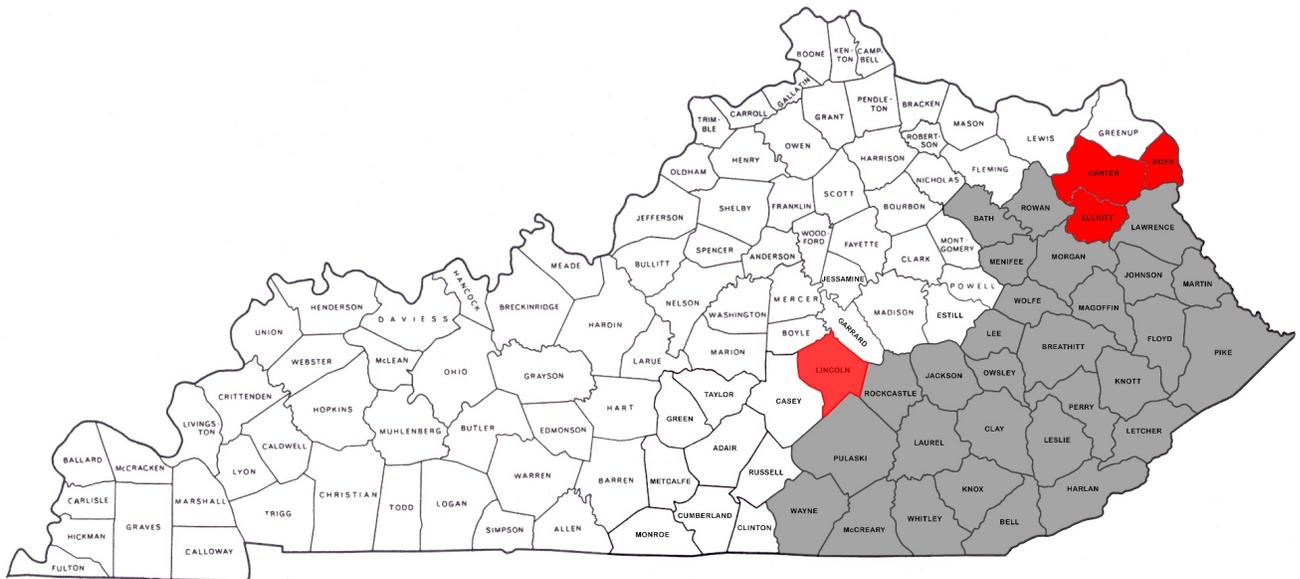
Section 531 - Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure Program

Key:

Gray – Counties currently in the program area

Red – Counties proposed to be added to the program area via the Section 7001 modification request

White – Counties not in the current or proposed program area



Additional Proposal Information

(This is as uploaded, a blank page will show if nothing was submitted)

Congressman Rogers PRIDE 531.pdf

HAROLD ROGERS
5TH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS
RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1705

August 19, 2019

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2406 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20518-1705
(202) 225-4601

DISTRICT OFFICES:

551 CLIFTY STREET
SOMERSET, KY 40503
(606) 679-8346 OR
1-800-632-8588

48 SOUTH KENTUCKY HIGHWAY 19
HAZARD, KY 41701
(606) 439-0794

110 RESOURCE COURT
SUITE A
PRESTONSBURG, KY 41653
(606) 886-0864

Lieutenant General Todd T. Semonite
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20314

RE: Water Resources Development Act 7001 Application

Dear LTG Semonite,

I am writing in support of my constituents at Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc., a non-profit organization, who have submitted a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Section 7001 application. PRIDE's proposal requests two modifications to the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Environmental Infrastructure (Section 531) Program, to: (1) double its project funding level authorization to \$80 million, and (2) expand its program area into other areas of need, including Boyd, Carter, Elliott and Lincoln counties.

Since inception, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Section 531 Program has made a transformational impact to the infrastructure and environment in Kentucky's Appalachian region, spanning the congressional district I serve. The mountainous terrain in southern and eastern Kentucky has historically made water and wastewater enhancement projects cost prohibitive for the economy of our small, rural counties. Thanks to the Section 531 Program and the long-standing partnership with PRIDE, nearly the entire region now has access to reliable water and wastewater services, including thousands of schools, homes and businesses. Additionally, the program has aided in the removal of thousands of straight pipes that polluted our streams for decades.

While there are still many areas in southern and eastern Kentucky that are in desperate need of this environmental infrastructure assistance, Section 531 reached its authorized funding level of \$40 million in FY19. Further, the program does not currently include several counties that also have great environmental infrastructure needs. PRIDE's proposal remedies both of these concerns, and will ensure that Section 531 continues to help provide my constituents with clean, reliable, and environmentally safe water and wastewater services.

Thank you in advance for giving due consideration to PRIDE's request to expand the Section 531 Program.

Sincerely,


HAROLD "HAL" ROGERS
Member of Congress