



CITY OF SOUTH BEND  
STEPHEN J. LUECKE, MAYOR  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

February 19, 2010

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar  
United States Senate  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

On behalf of the City of South Bend, I am writing to request funding for a hydroelectric turbine addition to the existing dam on the St. Joseph River at Century Center. The funding requested would be used to develop detailed plans and specifications, purchase equipment, and prepare the site for the addition of a hydroelectric turbine. This dynamic project would highlight the river as an important renewable energy source in our community.

As you may know, over the past 5 years, the city has invested over \$3 million in local funds to improve the dam with the ultimate goal of introducing new technology (small, lightweight, turbines) into old sources of energy (flowing rivers and blowing winds) in order to generate electricity. This project could potentially deliver power to a municipal facility, such as the wastewater treatment plant, to further benefit the environment, and the ratepayers of the municipal wastewater utility who are for the most part the taxpayers of South Bend. The City is discussing collaboration with institutional partners with strong interests in sustainability and the ability to partner on this strategic green energy project.

The hydroelectric turbine project would also be a downtown signature energy and environmental education attraction with a design that incorporates public viewing on one side of a tour corridor of the turbines explaining how energy is produced and used to benefit the public. There will also be viewing ports on the existing fish ladder that permits fish to migrate up river around the existing dam.

I understand the many competing priorities you must weigh and appreciate your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen J. Luecke".

Stephen J. Luecke  
Mayor