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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

9/18/2025

Jamieson Greer
U.S. Trade Ambassador
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Greer,

I respectfully urge you to include the 1944 Water Treaty in the upcoming United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

The 1944 Water Treaty is a foundational agreement governing the allocation of shared water resources between the U.S. and Mexico. However, a pattern of inconsistent and insufficient water deliveries from Mexico, particularly along the Rio Grande, has created a significant and persistent water deficit. This deficit has a direct and detrimental impact on farmers and ranchers across Texas.

The current framework for addressing these water issues, primarily through the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), has not proven sufficient to ensure timely and predictable water deliveries. There have been water delivery issues related to the treaty for over 80 years and this will continue to be an issue if not included in the USMCA.

By including the treaty within the USMCA framework, the U.S. would gain access to the agreement's robust dispute settlement mechanisms. This would provide a much needed, effective and enforceable means to hold Mexico accountable for its treaty obligations. The USMCA's structure would allow for a binding resolution to water disputes, thereby ensuring the stability and predictability that farmers and ranchers depend on.

I respectfully request that the USTR use the upcoming joint review of the USMCA to:

1. Formally recognize and incorporate the terms of the 1944 Water Treaty into the USMCA.
2. Establish a clear link between water delivery obligations and trade commitments, making non-compliance subject to the USMCA's enforcement and dispute resolution processes.
3. Prioritize this issue in discussions with our Mexican counterparts to secure reliable and consistent water deliveries.

A stable and secure water supply is essential for the economic vitality of the U.S. communities and industries that rely on transboundary rivers. I believe that integrating the 1944 Water Treaty

into the USMCA is the most effective way to protect our interests and ensure a prosperous future for all stakeholders along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Thank you for your consideration of this urgent matter. I look forward to your proactive engagement during the joint review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Monica De La Cruz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Monica De La Cruz
Member of Congress
15th District of Texas