Swainson's hawks in Argentina, a project to conserve the forest habitat for monarch butterflies, jaguar conservation in the Yucatan region, the restoration of the California condor in Baja California, Mexico and the purchase of equipment for law enforcement personnel to protect imperiled Far Eastern leopards, Amur tigers and snow leopards.

A fundamental goal of this program has been to build conservation capacity and establish ecosystem management regimes by allocating a small amount of U.S. taxpayer money. It is no exaggeration to state that these are the only funds available to assist these highly endangered international species and without this investment these species may become extinct in the wild.

During the last Congress, witnesses representing the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and the World Wildlife Fund testified before the House Natural Resources Committee on H.R. 4455. Each of these organizations spoke in strong support of my bill to establish the Wildlife Without Borders Program into law. For instance, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums said that: ''AZA wholeheartedly supports this effort''. The Wildlife Conservation Society stated that: ''Congressional authorization for the Wildlife Without Borders program affirms the leadership of the U.S. Government within the international community, underscoring our commitment to our international wildlife treaty obligations, and encouraging coordinated international efforts to save wildlife species.'' Finally, the World Wildlife Fund testified that: ''There is much to be gained in authorizing the international conservation programs of FWS, and creating one umbrella to promote synergies, efficiencies and coordination.''

By establishing a Congressional authorization for the Wildlife Without Borders Program, we will send a positive message to the international community that the United States is committed to its international wildlife treaty obligations and we recognize the long-term importance of this program by enacting it into law. It will also ensure that this Congress has an opportunity to carefully examine this program, to evaluate its effectiveness and to decide whether its merits further expenditures of taxpayer money in the future.

I urge my colleagues to support this important conservation legislation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Appropriations.

Requesting Member: JOHN M. SHIMKUS

Bill number: H.R. 3183

The Account: Construction—Chain of Rocks Canal

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

The funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities on the Chain of Rocks Canal; provides flood control for Metro East and a corridor for navigation of commerce

The Account: Construction—East St. Louis Levee

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities on the East St. Louis levee which provides flood protection for Metro East.

The Account: Construction—Upper Mississippi River Restoration IL, IA, MN, MO & WI

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers at Clock Tower Building Rock Island, IL 61204.

Funding The funding would be used to continue projects which are vital to the ecological restoration of the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway, including habitat creation and long-term monitoring

The Account: Construction—Wood River Levee

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities and for repair flood protection for Metro East at the Wood River Levee

The Account: O&M—Carlyle Lake

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including to maintain recreation and flood control activities and to address a project backlog at Carlyle Lake.

The Account: O&M—Lake Shelbyville

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St. St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including to maintain recreation and flood control activities and to address a project backlog at Lake Shelbyville.

The Account: O&M—Mississippi Rivers Between Missouri River and Minneapolis (MVS Portion) IL

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including the navigation channel on the Mississippi River which is essential to all commerce in the United States.

The Account: O&M—Rend Lake

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities including to maintain recreation and flood control activities and to address a project backlog at Rend Lake.

The Account: Construction—Madison & St. Clair Counties, IL

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103.

Funding will be used for the continuation to the next phase of sewer design and construction in the Glen Carbon and Maryville areas to provide long term regional sewer system for Metro East.

The Account: Section 206—Lake Lou Yaeger Restoration

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 122 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities and design and engineering of sediment removal plan for Lake Lou Yeager and allow the viability as long term water source.

The Account: Investigations—Prairie DuPont Levee and Sanitary District and Fish Lake Drainage and Levee District

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St in St. Louis, MO 63103

Funding will be used for the continuation of authorized activities and design and engineering of sediment removal plan for Lake Lou Yeager and allow the viability as long term water source.

The Account: EERE—Hardin County General Hospital Energy Efficiency Upgrades

Requesting Entity: Hardin County General Hospital located at Ferrell Road, Rosiclare, IL 62982.

Funding will be used for energy efficiency upgrades.

HONORING FROST, HOMETOWN, MOODY NATIONAL AND TEXAS FIRST BANKS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, at a time when the financial headlines are dominated by stories of financial institutions seeking taxpayer funds and other special privileges, I am pleased to call my colleagues' attention to a story from the Galveston Daily News about how four community banks came together to help their friends, neighbors and customers begin to recover and rebuild from Hurricane Ike. I ask for unanimous consent to insert this story into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Last fall, as the people of Galveston were assessing the damage from Hurricane Ike and Congress was beginning debate on spending billions of taxpayer funds to bail out irresponsible financial institutions, representatives of Frost, HomeTown, Moody National and Texas First banks met to discuss how these banks could help jumpstart hurricane recovery efforts. The four banks agreed to make unsecured bridge loans to Galveston businesses to ensure these businesses had access to capital while they waited for federal assistance and insurance payments.

The four banks made more than $40 million in recovery loans. These loans provided lifelines to many businesses struggling with both the devastation of Hurricane Ike and the credit crisis. Without the efforts of these four banks, several Galveston businesses would have had to shut their doors.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I extend my thanks to management and employees of Frost, HomeTown, Moody National, and Texas First banks for their efforts to help the businesses and people of Galveston recover from Hurricane Ike.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3081, 2010 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. This legislation provides $48.843 billion for the Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and related agencies to help the U.S. meet its foreign policy goals of economic stability and poverty reduction, advance the global fight against the HIV/AIDS epidemic and other health crises.

This bill helps protect our national security through effective diplomacy and international development projects. It provides needed assistance to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq and it promotes security, economic development, health, and education around the world. The bill also provides vital resources to rebuild the capacity of the State Department and USAID. It reverses a decade of reliance on supplemental appropriations and provides an honest accounting of the true cost of critical national security initiatives.

To rebuild our diplomatic and development capacity, the bill provides funding for approximately 1,000 new positions at the Department of State and approximately 300 new employees at USAID as part of the Development Leadership Initiative, creating jobs that hard-working Americans can fill. This bill also provides a total of $7.684 billion for global health programs, including $5.7 billion in total funding for global HIV/AIDS prevention and health initiatives. Diseases like HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria continue to threaten the lives of millions of people as well as stability in the developing world, and this bill will advance our security interests while also fulfilling our moral obligation to fight this scourge.

Mr. Chair, H.R. 3081 enhances our ability to keep our Nation secure and our citizens safe. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding projects that are listed in H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY2010:

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY2010

Account: Department of Energy, EERE

Title: Energy Reduction and Efficiency Improvement Through Lighting Control

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: St. Luke's Hospital and Health Network

Address of Requesting Entity: 801 Ostrum Street, Fountain Hill, PA 18015

Description of Request: This funding will support an energy reduction and efficiency initiative at St. Luke's Hospital and Health Network by helping to install advanced lighting controls that automatically adjust to lighting needs. Using locally-produced lighting technology, St. Luke's estimates a 20 percent to 30 percent reduction in lighting costs. This project will assure the hospital maintains suitable lighting at all times for patients and staff while saving energy and reducing costs.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY2010

Account: Department of Energy, Fossil Energy R&D

Title: Innovations for Low-Cost Gasification Systems

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 7201 Hamilton Boulevard, Allentown, PA 18195

Description of Request: This funding will advance the development of Green Energy ITM Ceramic Membranes, which can be integrated into a state-of-the-art gasification system to produce synthesis gas for the generation of advanced electric, hydrogen, or other clean fuels power. This versatile technology also enables the capture of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and can be applied in a cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner to a broad list of energy sources, including coal, natural gas, liquid hydrocarbons, biomaterials, and waste materials.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY2010

Account: Department of Energy, Science

Title: Energy Systems Engineering Institute

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lehigh University

Address of Requesting Entity: 5 East Packer Avenue, Whitaker 318, Bethlehem, PA 18015

Description of Request: This funding will support a research and education program, the Lehigh Energy Systems Engineering Institute (ESEI), at Lehigh University to spawn energy technology breakthroughs while simultaneously creating a pipeline of new talent for the energy sector workforce. The initiative will be a university-based program in which the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and various energy companies partner with university faculty to address critical research needs while developing the next generation of leaders and innovators for the energy industry.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the new House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Clear Lake, IA

Amount Provided: $910,000

Account: Corps of Engineers—Section 206

Recipient: Rock Island Illinois Corps Office

Recipient's Street Address: Clock Tower Bldg Rodman Ave Rock Island, IL 61201

Description: Continuation of authorized activities. This project is to ensure the completion of the feasibility phase, and to initiate construction on the Ventura Marsh portion of the Clear Lake project. This project will ultimately improve Clear Lake, its water quality and environment.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt, Ia

Amount Provided: $4,300,000

Account: Corps of Engineers—Construction

Recipient: Rock Island Illinois Corps Office

Recipient's Street Address: Clock Tower Bldg Rodman Ave Rock Island, IL 61201

Description: Continuation of authorized activities. Funds will maintain scheduled activities including construction of Ft. Dodge bridges/trails (incl. completion of plans and specs), Red Rock Trail and other scheduled activities.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Humboldt, IA

Amount Provided: $152,000

Account: Corps of Engineers—Investigations

Recipient: Rock Island Illinois Corps Office

Recipient's Street Address: Clock Tower Bldg Rodman Ave Rock Island, IL 61201

Description: Continuation of authorized activities. Evaluation of flood risk management measures, and restoration of degraded aquatic and wetland habitats on West Fork of Des Moines River.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Integrated Renewable Energy & Campus Sustainability Initiative

Amount Provided: $750,000

Account: EERE—Wind Energy

Recipient: Luther College

Recipient's Street Address: 700 College Drive Decorah, IA 52101

Description: This project is part of a 5-year strategic plan that proposes to reduce campus carbon use in the range of 50 percent through the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy. This request will aid in creating a two MW wind energy facility to generate electricity on the Luther campus.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Iowa Central Renewable Fuel Testing Laboratory

Amount Provided: $500,000

Account: EERE—Biomass and Biorefinery Systems R&D

Recipient: Iowa Central Community College

Recipient's Street Address: One Triton Circle Ft Dodge, IA 50501

Description: The project allows Iowa Central to expand its partnership with state and federal regulatory agencies, renewable fuel companies, etc. to ensure that the testing needs for renewable fuels quality are met. This initiative conforms to the needs espoused in the new energy policies being put forth.