

JAMES P. MCGOVERN
SECOND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

RANKING MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Continuous Flow Reactor for the Destruction of PFAS in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Worcester Polytechnic Institute located at 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609. The funding would be used to build a continuous flow reactor for the destruction of PFAS in contaminated soils and the plants that grow in them. The project includes purchasing parts needed to build a continuous flow reactor that destroys PFAS and purchasing instruments to analyze PFAS degradation products to ensure they do not pose harm to human health. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will improve the health of Worcester and surrounding communities by removing the environment's PFAS, which has been linked to adverse health effects, including developmental issues, immune system suppression, and increased risk of certain cancers. Many of the worst contaminated sites are in areas that have been historically marginalized. The funding will allow faculty and students to fully understand this new technology based on emergent scientific discoveries, further its innovation, and potentially scale it to a result in a wider impact in the state by commercializing the reactor.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress