

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

370 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2102  
(202) 225-6101

12 EAST WORCESTER STREET, SUITE 1  
WORCESTER, MA 01604  
(508) 831-7356

94 PLEASANT STREET  
NORTHAMPTON, MA 01060  
(413) 341-8700

24 CHURCH STREET, ROOM 27  
LEOMINSTER, MA 01453  
(978) 466-3552

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chair  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C.  
20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C.  
20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the UMass Amherst Water and Energy Technology Center (WET Center) project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Massachusetts Amherst, located at 372 Whitmore Building, UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA 01003. The funding would be used to rebuild the University's WET Center, which measures and controls drinking water contaminants.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the WET Center has become a facility known across the Northeast for high-impact work in many critical areas especially in measurement and control of drinking water contaminants, such as per-and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS), a growing public health crisis in the Commonwealth. The WET Center is also connected to the wastewater system for both the campus and the Town of Amherst (TOA) and has assisted the Town and University with wastewater-based epidemiology for the early detection of community spread COVID-19.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress