

NICK LALOTA

New York's First District

122 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3201
(202) 225-3826

515 ROUTE 111, SUITE 3B
HAUPPAUGE, NY 11788
(631) 289-1097

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3201

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES AND
GENERAL GOVERNMENT – VICE CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC GROWTH, TAX,
AND CAPITAL ACCESS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONTRACTING
AND INFRASTRUCTURE – CHAIRMAN

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Town of Riverhead Water District Clean Water Initiative to Eliminate PFOS and PFOA Impacts (Extensions 96 and 97) in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding is the Town of Riverhead, located at 4 West Second Street, Riverhead, New York 11901.

The funding would be used for the installation of water main extensions to connect homes and properties currently served by private wells that are impacted by PFOS, PFOA, and other hazardous contaminants resulting from activities at the former Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant at Calverton (EPCAL). Extension 96 will connect 45 single-family homes and 6 industrial properties along Middle Road, Deep Hole Road, Twomey Avenue, and Middle Country Road to the Riverhead public water system, eliminating reliance on private wells contaminated with PFOS and PFOA. Extension 97 will connect 79 homes — including 65 mobile homes located in a low-income community along Forge Road — to public water, addressing compounding contamination from PFAS, arsenic, iron, and manganese.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the contamination of private drinking water wells in this area is directly attributable to federal government activities at the former Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant at Calverton. PFAS compounds are persistent chemicals linked to serious adverse health outcomes including cancer, immune system disruption, and developmental harm. The 124 affected properties served by Extensions 96 and 97 have no alternative pathway to safe drinking water without connection to the public water system. Extension 97 in particular serves a vulnerable low-income population of mobile home residents who face compounding contamination from multiple hazardous pollutants. The Town of Riverhead has committed the required 20 percent non-federal cost share and has received partial prior funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, but those funds are insufficient to complete construction of both extensions without continued federal support.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300j-12, as implemented by 40 C.F.R. § 35.3520(b)(2)(ii), which makes eligible transmission and distribution projects involving the extension of public water distribution systems to eliminate contamination by emerging contaminants, including PFAS.

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

Sincerely,



Nick LaLota
Member of Congress