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

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May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Calverton and Riverhead PFAS/PFOA Cleanup in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Riverhead, located at 4 West Second Street, Riverhead, New York 11901.

The funding would be used for the installation of public water service to homes currently served by private wells that are impacted by emerging contaminants, i.e. PFAS/PFOA due to contamination from the former Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant at Calverton, now known as EPCAL through public water district extensions.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because over the past decade, it has come to light that a former Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant in Calverton that was once leased to Navy contractor Northrop Grumman has unintentionally contaminated groundwater with Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA). Since the last time the Town of Riverhead received federal funding for this project, the Navy has designated several new areas of concern and sites for investigation and eventual cleanup. One is just west of the 10,000-foot runway, where PFAS levels detected in groundwater were 100 times the Environmental Protection Agency's regional screening level of 4 parts per trillion. Its plume stretches to the southeast and extends across the runway toward the Peconic River. Clean drinking water is essential for the health of the public and the private wells in the project area are impacted by PFAS/PFOA contamination due to the federal government.

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.

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