

WILLIAM R. KEATING
9TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
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RANKING MEMBER
EUROPE
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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
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Washington, DC 20515

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May 2, 2025

Chairman Tom Cole
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

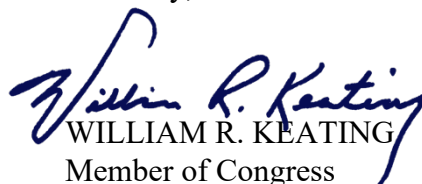
Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Rockland Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Upgrades project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Rockland located at 242 Union Street, Rockland, MA 02370. The funding would be used for the first phase of the Town of Rockland's comprehensive upgrade to the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) and will include secondary treatment system improvements and major electrical system upgrades. In addition to comprehensive equipment replacement needs, the WWTP is also facing capacity issues. On January 26, 2023, the WWTP experienced an Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) that caused the Division of Marine Fisheries to close the North and South Rivers shellfish beds located in Scituate and Marshfield. Since March of 2015, the WWTP has experienced 20 SSOs. On January 29, 2024, the WWTP experienced an SSO that lasted for 26 hours and discharged an estimated 1.08 million gallons of partially treated effluent into French's Stream. As recently as March 29, 2024, the WWTP experienced an SSO that lasted more than 122 hours and discharged an estimated 4.88 million gallons of partially treated effluent into French's Stream. Additionally, this project will reduce public health risks associated with SSOs such as exposure via ingestion and contact with recreational waters. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will positively impact public health of the approximately 95% of Rockland's population of 17,803 who are serviced by the Waste Water Treatment Plant and will directly benefit from this project. Rockland is home to four census block groups with 2020 Environmental Justice (EJ) populations that will positively benefit from the WWTP Upgrades project. Approximately 36.7% of the population in Rockland is in an EJ Block Group.

This project has a federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.

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

Sincerely,


WILLIAM R. KEATING
Member of Congress