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April 25, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
Room H-307
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Acidic Water Pollution Cleanup and Community Economic Development through Domestic Production of Critical Mineral for National Security Project for Fiscal Year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Pennsylvania State University located at 117 Old Main, Pollock Road, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802.

The funding, totaling \$2,100,000, would be used to design, build, and test a modular pilot-scale research and development unit to extract critical minerals from acid mine drainage sludge and expand the resource base of clays and other raw materials by additional drilling and characterizing the cores (raw material sites).

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars because the United States is 100% import-reliant for 17 of 35 critical elements identified by the U.S. Department of Interior. Another 14 have net import reliance greater than 50% of consumption. This endeavor would produce the critical minerals necessary to end our dependence on Chinese and other foreign sourced materials, thereby shoring up our national security. Further, the project would have environmental benefits including remediation of acid mine drainage, reclamation of abandoned mine lands, and reclamation of mineral processing and metallurgical waste dumps.

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

Very respectfully,

Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress