



Congress of the United States
Washington, DC

March 20, 2025

The Honorable Chairman Cole
Chairman, House Committee on
Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ranking Member DeLauro
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for Geotechnical Investigation and Planning for a Lake Tap Solution for Juneau's Glacial Lake Outburst Flood Disaster Mitigation Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, located at 2204 3rd Street, JBER, Alaska 99506.

The funding would be used for investigation and planning to protect against Glacial Lake Outburst Flooding (GLOF) along the Mendenhall River, specifically, for a lake tap that would be a tunnel drilled through Bullard Mountain, allowing water to drain from Suicide Basin into Mendenhall Lake, so that the Basin would not have the chance to catastrophically burst and harm nearby communities and infrastructure.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the investigation and planning will inform the lake tap solution that will protect two senior living facilities, a major medical facility, a post office, elementary school, affordable housing development, restaurants, grocery stores and other businesses, as well as the community's primary wastewater treatment facility in Juneau.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 8313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, and Section 116 of the Energy and Water and Development Act of 2010.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicholas J. Begich III".

Nicholas J. Begich III
Congressman for All Alaska