

Congress of the United States

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0904

May 10, 2024

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 expansion of University of North Florida's Educational Microgrid in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is University of North Florida, located at 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224. The funding would be used to expand an educational microgrid that will provide students with a hands-on learning opportunity and make the university more resilient by providing reliable electricity.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will help increase our knowledge about the creation and use of an emerging technology that can help provide communities with reliable and resilient power. In addition to providing more reliable energy, microgrids can help transition communities to more sustainable sources of energy. The expansion of this educational microgrid will give students and researchers the opportunity to get hands on experience proving how power will be created and stored within the grid, and work with necessary hardware and software. This project will be able to serve as a roadmap for other entities that are looking to use microgrids.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress