

Congresswoman McCollum confronts Republicans on EPA Budget Cuts, environmentally destructive pol

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Washington, DC – Recently, Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) participated in the markup of the Fiscal Year 2012 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill that sets funding levels for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Interior and other agencies within the subcommittee’s jurisdiction. The proposed spending bill led by the House Republican majority includes drastic cuts that will threaten the safety of America’s drinking water and let corporate polluters go free.

During the markup, Congresswoman McCollum took a stand against these reckless cuts and confronted Republicans for inserting a long list of anti-environmental taxpayer giveaways into the legislation:

“The Republicans on this Committee are deliberately choosing to prevent the EPA and other agencies from doing their jobs to protect the public health of families in Minnesota and across this country,” said Congresswoman McCollum. “Republicans are giving polluters a free pass by slashing funding for the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act to levels not seen in a decade. I strongly oppose the radical, anti-environmental agenda contained in this bill and reject the wrong-headed priorities it attempts to set with limited taxpayer dollars.”

In 2010, the EPA found the Clean Air Act saved 160,000 lives nationwide. By 2020, that number is expected to grow to 230,000 lives saved, leading to \$2 trillion in economic benefits.

Congresswoman Betty McCollum serves on the House Appropriations and Budget Committees.