RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp
10/26/2026
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2026 OCT 26 PM 2:57

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building.**This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification:*In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
Climate Solutions Foundation

Travel Dates:
10/19/2026 to 10/20/2026

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$410.95	$349.00	$163.85	$0.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

10/26/2026
Date

Leah Schaefer
Printed Name of Traveler

Leah Schaefer
Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

10 · 26 · 2026
Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

● Yes ○ No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Transportation	$410.95	Airline flight roundtrip $267.30 and ground transportation $141.00
Meals	$163.85	Dinner was less at the airport

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

○ Yes ● No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

○ Yes ● No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

Climate Solutions FOUNDATION

September 18, 2026

Leah Schaefer
Office of Senator John Curtis
Via Email

Dear Leah,

The **Climate Solutions Foundation (CSF)** invites you to join us from **October 19-20** for a **bipartisan staff delegation** to the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Commonwealth Fusions Systems'** campuses in Cambridge and Devens, Massachusetts.

Programming will include guided tours of several of MIT's research labs, the MIT nuclear reactor, and CFS's manufacturing facility. In addition, roundtable discussions on additional energy topics will be organized, including critical minerals, grid reliability, and applied energy economics. Staff will have the opportunity to explore and discuss the full innovation-to-deployment pipeline for emerging energy technologies, the foundational science underpinning them, and the economic and regulatory dynamics shaping their investment, commercialization, and deployment. Your work on these topics and commitment to durable policy solutions will be a great asset to our delegation.

This bipartisan staff delegation offers a unique opportunity to engage directly with leading partners across the U.S. energy ecosystem, including federally funded university labs, technology developers, and private sector investors. By engaging with researchers, industry leaders, and policymakers in both formal and informal settings, staff will come away with actionable insights, stronger cross-sector relationships, and a clearer understanding of opportunities and challenges in advancing durable, bipartisan energy solutions.

A bipartisan group of House and Senate staffers has been invited.

Space is limited. Please RSVP by filling out this form by Thursday, September 10th to secure your spot.
Feel free to reach out to Ingrid or Ana with any additional questions.

Best,
Ingrid

CSF is a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit that brings together ideologically diverse Members of Congress and their staff, global leaders, and corporate and trade executives to discuss climate science, energy, economics, and policy. We host events throughout the year, including this series of small, bipartisan gatherings of Members of Congress, executives, and allies with the purpose of building trust, fostering collaboration across party lines, and advancing bipartisanship on climate and energy.

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

9/18/2026

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler: Leah Schaefer
Leah Schaefer

Employing Office/Committee:
CURTIS, JOHN

Private Sponsor(s):
Climate Solutions Foundation

Destination(s):
Boston, Massachusetts

Travel Dates:
10/19/2026 to 10/20/2026

NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

I cover Senator Curtis' Energy and Natural Resources portfolio, which includes nuclear fission and fusion.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date 9/18/2026

Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I
Senator John Curtis
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize
Leah Schaefer
(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

[X] (signify "yes" by checking box)

9/18/2026
Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Climate Solutions Foundation: Climate Solutions Foundation MIT & CSF Cambridge, MA

Leah Schaefer

Title:
None

Employing Office/Committee:
CURTIS, JOHN

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):

Boston, Massachusetts

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

I cover Senator Curtis' Energy and Natural Resources portfolio, which includes nuclear fission and fusion.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
Climate Solutions Foundation

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
(●) Yes ( ) No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Private Foundation

Address
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Suite 410

Address 2 (Optional)
Suite 410

City, State Zip
Washington, District Of Columbia 20003 United States

Phone Number
(301) 518-6336

Organization URL
www.climatesolutionsfoundation.con

History of Congressional Travel

The Climate Solutions Foundation (CSF) has sponsored educational trips and programs for Congressional Members and staff for many years. These programs have included participation by U.S. House Members and Senate staff in Columbia University's Climate Program in 2022, as well as a visit to Calvert Cliffs in 2021.Over the years, CSF has also hosted Congressional delegations and staff for programs at Idaho Falls, CERAWeek in Houston, Equinix's Ashburn data center, New York City Climate Week, NRL -Golden, CO and COP programs. Both House and Senate Members and staff have been invited to participate in these educational programming providing bipartisan Congressional participants with opportunities to engage directly with industry leaders, policymakers, and experts on climate, energy, and emerging technologies. This longstanding programming reflects CSF's commitment to providing educational, bipartisan opportunities for Members of Congress and Congressional staff to better understand climate

Educational Activities

The Climate Solutions Foundation (CSF) has sponsored educational programs and trips for Congressional Members and staff for many years. CSF's programming includes roundtables, panels, dinners, and receptions with corporate partners, government officials, and international allies focused on domestic and global energy and climate issues. Over time, CSF has expanded its programming to include domestic educational trips, international trips to United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings, Congressional staff briefings, receptions, and a Congressional fellowship program. These efforts have provided bipartisan House and Senate Members and staff with opportunities to engage directly with policymakers, industry leaders, government officials, and subject-matter experts.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyists.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

A visit to MIT would give House and Senate staff a firsthand look at how climate science, technology, and innovation are translating into real-world solutions. Staff could hear directly from researchers about emerging technologies in clean energy, storage, grid reliability, carbon reduction, and other areas, while also learning about the challenges of bringing these solutions to scale. For a bipartisan climate nonprofit, the visit provides a substantive, solutions-focused opportunity to explore what is possible, what barriers remain, and how federal policy and investment can help accelerate innovation. The combination of bipartisan congressional engagement, substantive Foundation programming, and exposure to the larger global climate community demonstrates the importance of finding practical, durable climate solutions that can garner support across political lines.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

The Climate Solutions Foundation (CSF) was founded in 2019 as an educational, bipartisan 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our mission is to bring together ideologically diverse Members of Congress and their staff, global leaders, and corporate and trade executives to discuss climate science, economics, and policy. The Climate Solutions Foundation hosts a series of bipartisan, bicameral gatherings of members of Congress, congressional staff, executives, and scientists to build trust within the climate change community and inspire collaborative efforts to advance the agenda on climate change. Since then, CSF has expanded its programming to include domestic educational trips, international trips to the UN's (COP) convenings, congressional staff briefings, receptions, and a congressional fellowship program. The Climate Solutions Foundation is solely responsible for organizing and planning all aspects of the trip.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- [x] The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- [x] The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- [x] No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- [x] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- [ ] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
10/19/2026 @ 08:46 AM

Trip End Date/Time:
10/20/2026 @ 07:27 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

○ Yes ● No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $750.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	$500.00
Note Roundtrip		
Ground Transportation	Coach	$250.00
Note shuttle from airport and to meetings over the 2-day period		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $349.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
10/19/2026	10/20/2026	Courtyard by Marriott	Boston	Massachusetts	United States	1	$349.00	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $184.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
10/19/2026	$23.00	$26.00	$38.00	$5.00	**$92.00**	Boston	Massachusetts	United States	No
10/20/2026	$23.00	$26.00	$38.00	$5.00	**$92.00**	Boston	Massachusetts	United States	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
There are no miscellaneous expenses.		

Additional Attachments

Document Name

There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: Climate Solutions Foundation MIT & CFS

Travel Date(s): October 19th - October 20, 2026

Travel Destination(s): Cambridge, MA

Sponsor: Climate Solutions Foundation "CSF"

Alex Flint — *(printed name of sponsor representative)*

Chairman — *(title)*

(signature of sponsor representative)

8/25/2026 — *(date)*

First	Last	Title	Office/Committee
Grace	Bellone	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator John Curtis (UT)
Pat	Bond	Sr. Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Angus King (ME)
Josh	Bowlen	Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Shelly Moore Capito (WV)
Katherine	Goldstuck	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator Angus King
Hali	Gruber	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Lisa Murkowski (AK)
Claire	Hardy	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Risch
Sam	Hendricks	Senior Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Risch
Phoebe	Hering	Professional Staff Member	US Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
Dan	Horning	Energy Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Dave McCormick (PA)
Julia	Houghton	Legislative Correspondent	Office of Senator Kevin Cramer (ND)
Benjamin	Kasper	Energy Policy Fellow	Office of Senator Mark Kelly (AZ)
Reilly	Lamp	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Cramer
Sean	Lokken	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (NV)
Shane	Londagin	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Senator John Hickenlooper (CO)
Mikhail	Love	Legislative Assistant	Office of Senator Wicker
Jenna	Mayhew	Legislative Aide	Office of Senator Chris Coons (DE)
Ryan	Norman	Professional Staff Member	Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
Nicola (Nikki)	Risch	AAAS Fellow	Office of Senator Chris Coons (DE)

Leah	Schaefer	Policy Advisor	Office Of Senator John Curtis (UT)

Climate Solutions FOUNDATION

Climate Solutions Foundation Bipartisan Staff Delegation
Monday, October 19 – Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Monday, October 19, 2026

6:59 AM **American Airlines Flight # 3235 depart Washington Reagan National Airport**

8:46 AM **American Airlines Flight # 3235 arrives in Boston Logan International Airport**

9:15 AM **Depart Airport for MIT Campus**
Drive time 30 minutes to MIT Campus

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Welcome & Framing
Speakers: Chris Knittel, Associate Dean for Climate & Sustainability, MIT

Staff will receive an overview of the U.S. energy system and its current state of play, offering a foundational understanding of the technologies, infrastructure, markets, and policy considerations shaping the nation's energy landscape. He will also introduce the research and expertise across MIT that is helping to address emerging energy challenges and inform policymakers, from rising electricity demand and grid reliability to energy innovation, competitiveness, and decarbonization. The discussion will frame the two-day educational staff delegation, providing context for the subsequent conversations, site visits, and research briefings with MIT experts.

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Critical Minerals & the Energy System
Speakers: Elsa Olivetti, Professor in Engineering, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, MIT

This conversation will focus on the critical minerals underpinning next-generation energy technologies and infrastructure, examining the strategic and economic importance of resilient mineral supply chains. The discussion will explore critical minerals through three core lenses: security, availability, and trade, considering the vulnerabilities and opportunities within each and how they intersect with U.S. energy and economic interests. Staff will examine the role of domestic production, processing, recycling, international partnerships, and trade policy in strengthening critical mineral supply chains, with particular attention to various policies from the administration and Congress and their implementation.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Working Lunch: Energy Technology Development & Deployment
Speakers: Michael Short, Professor of Nuclear Science & Engineering, MIT | Heather Zwahlen, Group Leader, MIT Lincoln Laboratory

The working lunch will provide congressional staff with an opportunity to explore how emerging energy technologies move from research and development to real-world deployment. The discussion will examine the role of universities, national laboratories, and the private sector in advancing new technologies, as well as the technical, regulatory, economic, and infrastructure challenges that can shape their path to commercialization. Speakers will draw on their work at MIT and the MIT Lincoln Laboratory, sharing lessons from nuclear energy and other emerging technologies, U.S. competitiveness in a rapidly evolving global landscape, and opportunities to accelerate the development and deployment of technologies that can strengthen U.S. energy security and reliability.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM **Walk to MIT Laboratory for Nuclear Security & Policy**
10 min walk

1:15 PM – 2:00 PM **Tour of MIT Laboratory for Nuclear Security & Policy**
Speakers: Michael Short, Professor of Nuclear Science & Engineering, MIT | Heather Zwahlen, Group Leader, MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Staff will visit the MIT Laboratory for Nuclear Security & Policy (LNSP), an interdisciplinary research lab focused on applying science and engineering to challenges at the intersection of nuclear technology, national security, and public policy. The tour will showcase current research on nuclear nonproliferation and treaty verification, nuclear security and detection technologies, radiation forensics, and the security implications of emerging energy technologies. Staff will hear directly from MIT researchers about how technical research can help define the boundaries of complex policy challenges and inform practical policy approaches, providing a firsthand look at how academia can contribute to nuclear security and policymaking.

2:00 PM – 2:20 PM **Walk to Nuclear Reactor Tour**
138 Albany Street, Cambridge, MA 02139
20 minute walk

2:20 PM – 3:00 PM **Nuclear Reactor Tour**
Speakers: Michael Short, Professor of Nuclear Science & Engineering, MIT | Heather Zwahlen, Group Leader, MIT Lincoln Laboratory

Staff will take a tour of MIT's Nuclear Reactor Laboratory, home to the 6MW Research Reactor (MITR), one of the nation's leading university-lead research reactors. The tour will provide an inside look at reactor operations, safety systems, and the role of university research facilities in advancing the U.S. nuclear energy sector. Staff will learn how the reactor supports research and workforce development across nuclear science and engineering, including advanced nuclear fuels and materials, reactor instrumentation, neutron science, isotope production, all relevant to the next generation of nuclear reactors and corresponding policies currently under development.

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM **Nuclear Energy Q&A**

This concluding discussion will bring together the day's discussions on nuclear technology, security, research, and deployment. Staff will have an opportunity to ask MIT experts follow-up questions and connect what they have seen firsthand at the Laboratory for Nuclear Security & Policy and Nuclear Reactor Laboratory to broader policy questions surrounding all multiple types of nuclear energy technologies and their role in the U.S. energy ecosystem. The conversation will explore remaining barriers to deployment (including regulation, siting, safety, workforce, and technology development) and identify areas where federal policy could help accelerate innovation and deployment while emphasizing safety and proper integration in the existing system.

4:00 PM – 4:10 PM **Drive to Hotel**
5-10 minute drive

4:10 PM – 5:10 PM **Executive Time**

5:10 PM – 5:30 PM **Drive to Reception & Dinner**
7 minute drive or 25 minute walk

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM **Reception & Dinner**
Althea | 2 Columbia St, Cambridge, MA 02139

Staff will attend a reception with MIT leadership and researchers, CFS staff, and additional allies working in the energy and climate space. This setting will provide a valuable opportunity for staff to engage with a broader set of cross-sector energy ecosystem stakeholders and continue more in-depth, informal conversations, building on themes from conversation during the day's programming.

RON **Courtyard by Marriott – Boston Cambridge**
777 Memorial Dr, Cambridge, MA 02139

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

7:00 AM **Optional Staff Breakfast at Hotel**

7:45 AM **Drive to Commonwealth Fusion Systems Facility**
1 hour drive

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM **Tour of Commonwealth Fusion Systems Facility**
117 Hospital Rd, Devens, MA 01434
Agenda:
9:00-9:30 AM: SPARC Tour
9:30-10:00 AM: Site Tour
10:00-11:30 AM: Fusion Policy Discussion

Commonwealth Fusion Systems (CFS), a company spun out of MIT research, is developing SPARC, a compact fusion device using high-temperature superconducting magnets designed to demonstrate net energy gain from fusion. Delegates will tour the company's manufacturing and magnet-testing facilities in Devens, MA and see firsthand the engineering behind its approach to commercializing fusion power. Staff will gain a concrete understanding of how private capital and federal R&D investment translate into deployable technology, informing conversations on fusion permitting, supply chain policy, and public-private funding models that could further catalyze the technology towards commercialization.

11:30 AM **Drive to MIT Main Campus**
1 hour drive

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM **Lunch Roundtable: U.S. Energy System State of Play: Load Growth, Grid Capacity, and Energy Generation Expansion**
Speakers: Chris Knittel, Associate Dean for Climate & Sustainability, MIT | Joshua Hodge, Executive Director, Center for Energy & Environmental Policy Research, MIT | Paul Joskow, Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Economics, MIT | Morgan Andreae, Executive Director, Future Energy Systems Center and Eni-MIT Alliance, MITEI

This roundtable convenes experts from across the research and energy sectors to examine the current state of the grid: where load growth is concentrated, where capacity constraints are emerging, and how generation expansion, market structures, and grid modernization efforts are responding. The discussion is designed to establish a shared, systems-level understanding of the U.S. energy landscape, setting the stage for the delegation's subsequent conversations on specific technologies, market mechanisms, and regulatory tools available to policymakers as they shape the nation's energy future.

END OF PROGRAMMING

3:10 PM	**Depart MIT for Boston Logan Airport** *20-30 minute drive*
3:30 PM	**Arrive Boston Logan Airport**
5:35 PM	**American Airlines Flight # 0955 departs Boston Logan Airport**
7:27 PM	**American Airlines Flight # 0955 arrives in Washington Reagan National Airport**