

Hello «salutation_» «Political_Person»,

My name is Shea Tough, and I am reaching out to you as a human practices representative of Western University's international genetically engineered machine team, or iGEM for short. iGEM is an international conference competition where students from across the globe conduct a synthetic biology based project and compete to solve some of the worlds most prominent problems.

This year Western iGEM's project involves creating a genetically engineered biofilm to remove microplastics and pharmaceuticals from wastewater, to ensure these emerging contaminants do not circulate back into the City of London's fresh water sources.

I am reaching out to you as the «Position» of London because as our lab team is creating a solution, the human practices team is trying to bring more political awareness and support towards the need for regulations, policy reform and discussion for emerging contaminants in the City of London's water sources . Currently there are no regulations in place, and we feel the public has a right to be informed and educated on this topic as well.

As a team, we are simply trying to spark conversation and awareness of the impending issue within the leaders of our community. As we gain support, we hope to ultimately shift the current regulatory landscape surrounding emerging contaminants and use the City of London as an example of how a change can be made if enough people care to make a difference.

Our team wrote a letter to the City of London outlining our concerns as well as regulatory, public engagement and policy reform suggestions. The letter can be viewed [here](#). We would love for you to read it and give us feedback. One of our goals is to educate and enhance public knowledge on this topic and we would love to sit down and discuss the possibilities with you.

If this e-mail and the letter resonates with your values, but you do not have the time to discuss this matter further we completely understand and would truly appreciate you submitting your name on our google form as someone who supports our mission. The more people of power with a voice who sign, the bigger a difference we can make.

Link to google form: <https://forms.gle/UetyZvfqPF5hdaU78>

Instagram: @western_igem

iGEM competition: <https://igem.org/Competition>

Thank you for your time and we hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Shea Tough

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