

Appendix C – Letters of Support

Appendix C contains all letters of support received at the time of submission. Demonstrating strong statewide support is a letter signed by 21 members of the Texas Congressional Delegation, including all five House Committee Chairmen from Texas. Recognizing the importance of this funding opportunity to Texas, U.S. Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn, the Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission and the Chairman of the Texas Freight Advisory Committee have also provided letters of support. Letters are also included from eight local and state elected officials and 14 industry associations and private companies such as the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers, The Texas Oil and Gas Association, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation and Shell Exploration and Production Company.

Elected Officials

US Sen. John Cornyn

Texas Congressional Delegation Letter

- Rep. Will Hurd, TX-23
- Rep. Michael Conaway, TX-11, Agriculture Committee Chair
- Rep. John Culberson, TX-07
- Rep. Pete Sessions, TX-32
- Rep. Pete Olson, TX-22
- Rep. Bill Flores, TX-17
- Rep. Brian Babin, TX-36
- Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, TX-30
- Rep. Joe Barton, TX-06
- Rep. Kevin Brady, TX-08, Ways and Means Committee Chair
- Rep. Henry Cuellar, TX-28
- Rep. Lamar Smith, TX-21, Science and Technology Committee Chair
- Rep. Michael McCaul, TX-10, Homeland Security Committee Chair
- Rep. Ted Poe, TX-02
- Rep. Vicente Gonzalez, TX-15
- Rep. Mac Thornberry, Armed Services Committee Chair
- Rep. Roger Williams, TX-25
- Rep. Jodey Arrington, TX-19
- Rep. Filemon Vela, TX-34
- Rep. John Ratcliffe, TX-04
- Rep. Marc Veasey, TX-33

Chairman Christi Craddick, Texas Railroad Commission

State Sen. Kel Seliger

State Rep. Drew Darby

State Rep. Brooks Landgraf

State Rep. Poncho Nevarez

State Rep. Tom Craddick

Mayor Jerry Phillips, City of Kermit

Judge Charles Wolf, Winkler County

Judge Kim Halfmann, Glasscock County

Judge Ed Emmett, Harris County; Texas Freight Advisory Committee Chair

Associations and Corporations

AGC Texas

AGC Texas is the Texas Chapter of the Highway, Heavy, Utilities and Industrial Branch of the Associated General Contractors of America. Representing 900 member firms, AGC Texas is one of the largest, strongest and most progressive Chapters in the construction industry.

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

Anadarko's mission is to deliver a competitive and sustainable rate of return to shareholders by developing, acquiring and exploring for oil and natural gas resources vital to the world's health and welfare.

MOTRAN

MOTRAN is an alliance between members of the Odessa and Midland communities that has been instrumental in raising funds for and improving the infrastructure of the Permian Basin area.

Permian Basin Petroleum Association

Formed in 1961 by a group of oilmen concerned about the federal government's growing regulatory role, the Permian Basin Petroleum Association has grown from fewer than twenty members to more than 1,000 member companies.

Permian Basin Road Safety Coalition

Recognizing that safer roads are a shared responsibility, the Permian Road Safety Coalition was established as an innovative collaborative of cross-industry efforts with oil and gas operators, service companies, transportation companies, government organizations and non-government organizations. The PRSC brings together global private sector companies, across industries, to collaborate on improving road safety. The PRSC brings together members' knowledge, data, technology, and global networks to focus on five areas that will make the greatest impact within local communities.

Shell Exploration and Production Company

Shell is a global group of energy and petrochemical companies. Our operations are divided into our businesses: Upstream, Integrated Gas and New Energies, Downstream. Our Projects & Technology organization manages the delivery of Shell's major projects and drives our research and innovation.

Texas Alliance of Energy Producers

Based in the oil patch, the Alliance represents the interests of the oil and gas industry at both the state and federal levels of government. The Alliance's commitment is to ensuring that tomorrow's energy policy will be one in which our members can grow and prosper.

Created in 2000 through the merger of the North Texas Oil & Gas Association and the West Central Texas Oil & Gas Association, the Alliance has a combined membership of over 3,350 members. It is the largest state independent oil and gas association in the nation.

Texas Association of Counties

With the formation of the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) in 1969, Texas counties joined together to improve and promote the value of county government on a statewide basis. TAC is the representative voice for all Texas counties and county officials and, through TAC, counties communicate the county perspective to state officials and the general public.

Texas Association of Manufacturers

More than 500 small and large companies from all across the state are members of the Texas Association of Manufacturers (TAM). And, TAM gives a voice to those businesses at the State house and at our nation's Capital.

Texas Association of Realtors

The Texas Association of Realtors, founded in 1920, is composed of over 107,000 Texas Realtors making it the largest and most powerful professional membership association in Texas.

Texas Farm Bureau

The Texas Farm Bureau's mission is to be the Voice of Texas Agriculture on behalf of over 500,000 member-families.

Texas Oil and Gas Association

Texas Oil & Gas Association (TXOGA) is a statewide trade association with approximately 5,000 members representing every facet of the Texas oil and gas industry including small independents and major producers. Collectively, TXOGA members account for over 90 percent of all oil and natural gas produced in Texas, they operate a vast majority of the State's pipeline mileage and gas processing capacity, and they are responsible for a preponderance of the State's refining capacity.

Texas Pipeline Association

The Texas Pipeline Association (TPA) provides effective advocacy on issues related to pipeline safety, environmental regulations, taxation and legislation and is the primary resource for information regarding the Texas pipeline industry.

Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association

The Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association is the oldest sheep and goat organization in the United States. The TSGRA fights to protect private landowners' property rights against the ever-growing, unnecessary, as well as, unconstitutional regulations brought about by government and environmental programs proposed in Washington and Austin on a daily basis.

WILL HURD
23RD DISTRICT, TEXAS

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INTELLIGENCE AND OVERHEAD ARCHITECTURE

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY

VICE-CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
BORDER AND MARITIME SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COUNTERTERRORISM AND INTELLIGENCE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4323

July 3, 2018

317 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4511

17721 ROGERS RANCH PARKWAY
SUITE 120
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78258
(210) 921-3130

TEXAS A&M SAN ANTONIO PATRIOTS' CASA
ONE UNIVERSITY WAY, SUITE 202A
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78224
(210) 784-5023

1104 WEST 10TH
DEL RIO, TX 78840
(830) 422-2040

124 SOUTH HORIZON
SOCORRO, TX 79927
(915) 235-6421

100 SOUTH MONROE STREET
EAGLE PASS, TX 78852
(210) 784-5023

PECOS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1ST FLOOR
103 WEST CALLAGHAN
FORT STOCKTON, TX 79735
(210) 245-1548

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

We are writing to express our support for the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects applications for the U.S. Department of Transportation BUILD grant program. The Program of Projects is made up of four different components: Reeves County Improvement Project, Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project, Winkler County Improvement Project, and Glasscock County Improvement Project.

The Program of Projects will provide Texans across the state who have been affected by the boom in the energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvement projects, including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will ultimately reduce life-cycle costs for all of the affected roads. The four separate projects have been prioritized through working with local and regional governments, citizens and private entities on a roadway improvement plan. In addition to the funds received through this grant, TxDOT plans to leverage state funding sources from energy resource production such as oil and gas severance taxes.

Roads in the Permian Basin have experienced significant damage from trucks hauling water, sand, equipment and product needed to tap the exponential increase in oil and gas production. While the Permian Basin represents ten percent of Texas's economy, it makes up thirty percent of all national oil and gas production. To address this growth, TxDOT has planned more than 1,700 miles of improvements including pavement strengthening and the addition of shoulders and passing lanes. This Program of Projects would particularly benefit residents who live in rural areas of the state; rural connectivity remains a priority in achieving a fully integrated transportation system for Texas.

Oil and gas production in the Permian Basin is projected to double by 2023, meaning Texas would yield sixty percent of net global output in this timeframe. Addressing the needs of the roads in the Permian Basin ensures that the economic productivity of the region can continue to benefit the state and nation at large, while maintaining safety for Texas's many motorists. The BUILD grant funds will allow TxDOT to connect the local needs of the Permian Basin with state and national planning efforts.

My colleagues and I appreciate your swift and thoughtful consideration of TxDOT's applications for this crucial funding opportunity.

Sincerely,

Will Hurd

WILL HURD
Member of Congress

K. Michael Conaway

MICHAEL CONAWAY
Member of Congress

Pete Sessions

PETE SESSIONS
Member of Congress

Joe Barton

JOE BARTON
Member of Congress

John Culberson

JOHN CULBERSON
Member of Congress

Kevin Brady

KEVIN BRADY
Member of Congress

Michael T. McCaul

MICHAEL MCCAUL
Member of Congress

Mac Thornberry

MAC THORNBERRY
Member of Congress

Lamar Smith

LAMAR SMITH
Member of Congress

Bill Flores

BILL FLORES
Member of Congress

Vicente Gonzalez

VICENTE GONZALEZ
Member of Congress

Pete Olson

PETE OLSON
Member of Congress

Roger Williams

ROGER WILLIAMS
Member of Congress

Ted Poe

TED POE
Member of Congress

Eddie Bernice Johnson

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
Member of Congress

Henry Cuellar

HENRY CUELLAR
Member of Congress



BRIAN BABIN
Member of Congress

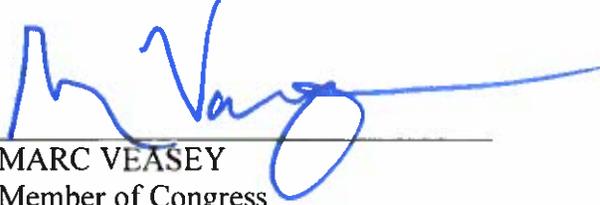


JODEY ARRINGTON
Member of Congress



FILEMON VELA
Member of Congress

JOHN RATCLIFFE
Member of Congress



MARC VEASEY
Member of Congress

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4305

July 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

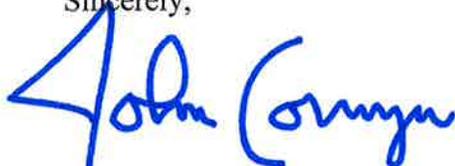
I am writing to express my support for the Fiscal Year 2018 National Infrastructure Investment (BUILD) grant application submitted to the Department of Transportation by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

As you and your staff review the proposal, I trust you will give full consideration to the many strengths of this application. As you may know, the Permian Basin represents ten percent of Texas' economy and 30 percent of all national oil and gas production. As oil and gas production continues to boom in West Texas, it is crucial that local infrastructure be maintained and upgraded, when needed. The BUILD grant, if awarded, would enable TxDOT to implement their Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. This multifaceted project will address four improvement highway sector areas that have been significantly damaged due to natural elements and increased equipment and product hauling. Currently, the Permian Basin's growth makes it the fourth largest member of OPEC behind Saudi Arabia and Iraq. TxDOT's project is vital to the area, as it continues to safely and efficiently provide oil and gas to the nation.

I would appreciate your efforts to ensure that I am kept informed of the progress of this application. Please contact Andrea McGee (Andrea.McGee@cornyn.senate.gov), my Grants Coordinator, with any developments regarding this proposal as soon as they are available.

Thank you for your assistance and consideration.

Sincerely,



JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator



RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

P.O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
(512) 463-7140
FAX (512) 463-7161

CHRISTI CRADDICK
CHAIRMAN

July 9, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
United State Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: BUILD Grant Funding for the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects

Dear Secretary Chao:

As Chairman of the Railroad Commission of Texas, which has regulatory oversight of the Texas energy industry, I write today to urge consideration be given toward fully funding the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant program.

Today, Texas is leading our country's new energy renaissance. With more than half the total number of rigs active in the U.S., Texas produces one-third of the total U.S. oil and one-fourth of the total U.S. natural gas. Texas' Permian Basin, the most prolific oilfield in the U.S., accounts for 3 million barrels of oil per day or fifteen percent of the nation's total crude oil. As energy produced in the Permian Basin region is expected to double over the next 5 years, increased oil production from west Texas could result in the U.S. passing Saudi Arabia and Russia as the world's top oil producer.

We are excited about the enormous energy growth in Texas and the industry's long-term potential. The impacts on roads from activity related to high-intensity energy production have created safety concerns for our citizens. While only 2 percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin, ten percent of all traffic fatalities in Texas occur in the region. Put simply, our transportation systems in rural, energy producing areas like the Permian Basin are not sufficient to withstand the industry's high volume of truck traffic. We must fund improvements for our roads and highways so that all Texans, whether they reside and work in rural or urban areas, can travel safely on reliable roads.

The Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads

and stronger pavement that can reduce life-cycle costs. The included projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan that partnered with local and regional governments. Input from citizens and private entities was sought to leverage state funding sources originating from energy production. This funding is critical for Texas to continue to safely supply Americans with low-cost, reliable, U.S. crude oil, petroleum products and natural gas, as well as strengthening our national energy security.

For the benefit of citizens in the Permian Basin and the continued success of our state's energy industry, I respectfully request your support for the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects to receive funding from the BUILD Grant program.

Sincerely,



Christi Craddick
Chairman, Railroad Commission of Texas



SENATOR KEL SELIGER

CAPITOL OFFICE:
P.O. Box 12068
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711
(512) 463-0131
FAX: (512) 475-3733
DIAL 711 FOR RELAY CALLS

*The Senate of
The State of Texas*

DISTRICT 31

DISTRICT OFFICES:
410 S. TAYLOR
SUITE 1600
AMARILLO, TEXAS 79101
(806) 374-8994
FAX: (806) 374-4607

401 AUSTIN
SUITE 101
BIG SPRING, TEXAS 79720
(432) 268-9909
FAX: (432) 268-9899

6 DESTA DRIVE
SUITE 3360
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79705
(432) 620-0436
FAX: (432) 686-7748

6005 EAST RIDGE ROAD
SUITE 210
ODESSA, TEXAS 79762
(432) 550-7476
FAX: (432) 367-0034

July 2, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Madam Secretary:

I am writing to give my support and urge consideration be given to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. These projects will provide rural Texans, and the energy industry, with critical safety improvement and congestion relief projects.

The Permian Basin is the largest petroleum producing region in the country representing 30 percent of all domestic production. While the increased activity strengthens our economy and alleviates our dependence on foreign oil, there is a cost. The Permian Basin represents only two percent of Texas' population yet ten percent of traffic fatalities occur there. Infrastructure has not been able to keep up with the rate of increased transportation demands of the oil and gas industry.

The projects have been prioritized to leverage state funding sources from energy production, including oil and gas severance taxes, and general revenue sources. These grant funds will connect local needs with state and national planning efforts. I strongly encourage fully funding the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kel Seliger".

Kel Seliger

TEXAS HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

CAPITOL OFFICE:
P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910
(512) 463-0331 PHONE



DISTRICT OFFICE:
36 WEST BEAUREGARD
SUITE 517
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS 76903
(325) 658-7313 PHONE
(325) 659-3762 FAX

Drew Darby

DISTRICT 72

COKE • CONCHO • GLASSCOCK • HOWARD • IRION • REAGAN • RUNNELS • STERLING • TOM GREEN

July 6, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for TxDOT BUILD Grant Applications

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing in support of the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. TxDOT is submitting the following projects for the USDOT BUILD grant program: Reeves County Improvement Project, Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project, Winkler County Improvement Project, and Glasscock County Improvement Project. I represent nine counties in the Texas House of Representatives which include Glasscock and Reagan counties.

Oil and gas production in the Permian Basin is booming and the roads and bridges connecting the oil fields are taking a tremendous beating due to the increase in truck traffic needed to support industry activities. In addition, our small towns are experiencing unheard of traffic congestion and bottlenecks, with cars and trucks backed up for miles at intersections. We have also seen a spike in traffic accidents. While just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin, ten percent of all traffic fatalities occur here. Pipe and rail lines are also at capacity, requiring additional truck traffic to carry heavy oil and sand.

TxDOT's Program of Projects will address these issues at four separate locations by adding critical safety and congestion improvement components including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement. These projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan developed in conjunction with local and regional governments and citizen input. The BUILD grant funds will be leveraged with state funds originating from oil and gas severance taxes to assist TxDOT in making rural connectivity a priority in delivering a fully integrated transportation system.

The Permian Basin production is expected to double by 2023 so the time is now to implement road and grade crossing improvements. Local oil and gas production contributes to the nation's energy independence and national security and transportation costs, reliability, resiliency and speed to market are critical factors to competitiveness, not just for the oil and gas industry but for agriculture industries that use the same local roads. For these reasons, I ask for your full consideration and funding of TxDOT's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Drew Darby", with a stylized flourish at the end.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BROOKS LANDGRAF

June 21, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to urge you to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects, especially the Winkler County Improvement Project. I represent the Permian Basin in the Texas House of Representatives and I am intimately aware of the dire need for infrastructure improvements in West Texas.

The Permian Basin represents ten percent of Texas' economy and 30 percent of all national oil and gas production. Fortunately, oil and gas production in the Permian Basin is booming again, and there is no end in sight. Rig counts in the Permian Basin totaled 444 on April 6, 2018, up 113 from the same time in 2017. While this is great news for the local, state and national economies, the continued increase in production activity is creating significant damage to roads caused by water, sand, equipment and product hauling.

The increase in production has also created critical safety issues in remote areas of rural Texas. There has been a significant increase of personnel in and around West Texas. While just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin, ten percent of all traffic fatalities in the state occur here.

The Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will reduce life-cycle costs. More than 1,700 miles of desperately needed improvements are currently planned by the Texas Department of Transportation to include the addition of shoulders, passing and travel lanes, and pavement strengthening.

I urge you to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. It is my honor to serve the Permian Basin in the Texas House of Representatives, and I truly believe that the awarding of this grant will improve the lives of West Texans.

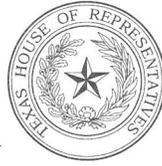
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brooks Landgraf".

Brooks Landgraf



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



PONCHO NEVÁREZ

DISTRICT 74

June 26th, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects

Dear Secretary Chao,

As the State Representative for House District 74, I urge full consideration be given to fully fund the following applications:

1. Reeves County Improvement Project
2. Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project
3. Winkler County Improvement Project
4. Glasscock County Improvement Project

The approval of these applications would facilitate needed improvements in safety, efficiency, connectivity, economic development, partnership and national security. The included projects are prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan, in conjunction with local and regional governments, and sought input from citizens and private entities, to leverage state funding sources originating from energy resource production including oil and gas severance taxes and general revenue sources.

The roads of rural West Texas are in need of immediate repair. Production in the Permian Basin is booming with no end in sight. The continued increase in activity is creating significant damage to roads from water, sand, equipment and product hauling as well as critical safety issues in remote areas of rural Texas. The Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with

critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will reduce life-cycle costs.

Funding is critical for Texas to continue to provide its share of oil and gas to the nation to help keep gas prices down for all Americans. While just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin area, a shocking **ten percent of all traffic fatalities** take place in the Permian Basin. Growth in this region is projected to double by 2023, yielding **60 percent of net global output in this timeframe**. Reliable and cost-effective transportation will become increasingly crucial in order for the oil and gas industry to continue to thrive.

As Texas grows, our network of more than 80,000 centerline miles of roads and highways must be connected so that all Texas, whether they reside and work in rural or urban areas, can travel on safe, reliable highways. These four proposals will ensure a healthy economy, safer roads, and increased connectivity in Texas, and keep gas prices down around the country. Thank you for your consideration on this issue.

With kindest regards I remain,

Sincerely,



Poncho Nevárez



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TOM CRADDICK

DISTRICT 82

CRANE DAWSON MARTIN MIDLAND UPTON

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
United States Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I have been honored to serve the great West Texas area as an elected state officials for many years. Our area has seen a tremendous amount of growth in the production of oil and gas, as well as wind-generation. This has made Texas the number 1 producer of energy in the nation.

As a result of the high volume of energy production, West Texas has experienced a tremendous growth in its population and use of its highways. The network of more than 80,000 centerline miles of roads and highways must be connected so that all Texans, whether they reside and work in West Texas or not, can travel on safe and reliable roads.

I respectfully urge your consideration to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. The Program of Projects include four applications:

- o Reeves County Improvement Project
- o Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project
- o Winkler County Improvement Project
- o Glasscock County Improvement Project

These projects that have been included in the Texas Department of Transportation's application have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan that partnered with local and regional governments, and sought input from citizens and private entities to leverage state funding sources originating from energy resource production. With the production in the Permian Basin booming with no end in sight, the continued increase in activity is creating significant damage to roads and creating critical safety issues in remote areas of rural Texas.

The Permian Basin is projected to double in growth by 2023, yielding 60 percent of net global output in this timeframe. These grant funds will connect local needs with state and national planning efforts.

Thank you for your sincere consideration of our request. Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you have any questions or should you wish to discuss this with me further over the phone.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Craddick".

TOM CRADDICK
Texas State Representative
House District 82

CITY OF KERMIT
110 SOUTH TORNILLO, KERMIT, TEXAS 79745
PH (432) 586-3460 FAX (432) 586-2220



June 29, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for TxDOT BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

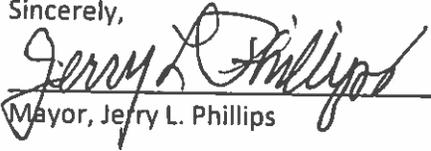
I/We are writing in support of the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. TxDOT is submitting the following projects for the USDOT BUILD grant program: Reeves County Improvement Project, Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project, Winkler County Improvement Project, and Glasscock County Improvement Project.

While oil and gas production in the Permian Basin is booming with no end in sight, the roads and bridges connecting the oil fields have taken a tremendous beating and are degrading daily due to the increase in truck traffic needed to support industry activities. In addition, our small towns are experiencing unheard of traffic congestion and bottlenecks, with cars and trucks backed up for miles at intersections. We've also seen a spike in traffic accidents. While just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin, ten percent of all traffic fatalities occur here. With pipelines nearing capacity, truck traffic is only expected to increase.

Tx DOT's Program of Projects will address these issues at four separate locations by adding critical safety and congestion improvement components including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement. These projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan developed in conjunction with local and regional governments and citizen input. The BUILD grant funds will be leveraged with state funds originating from oil and gas severance taxes to assist TxDOT in making rural connectivity a priority in delivering a fully integrated transportation system.

The Permian Basin production is expected to double by 2023 so the time is now to implement road and grade crossing improvements. Local oil and gas production contributes to the nation's energy independence and national security and transportation costs, reliability, resiliency and speed to market are critical factors to competitiveness, not just for the oil and gas industry but for agriculture industries that use the same local roads. For these reasons, I/We ask for your full consideration and funding of TxDOT's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects.

Sincerely,



Mayor, Jerry L. Phillips



July 9, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

As Chairman of the Texas Freight Advisory Committee, I lead the effort on advising the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on freight issues and elevating freight transportation as a key component of the state's economic vitality and competitiveness. In my capacity as Chairman, I am writing to endorse TxDOT's Program of Projects application for the US Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) transportation grant program.

Grant funds for these projects will accelerate the delivery of critically needed infrastructure improvements in Texas' Energy Sector. The Permian Basin, located in rural west Texas, represents ten percent of Texas' economy and produces 30 percent of all oil and gas nationwide. Texas' rural transportation system provides the first link in the energy supply chain.

The oil and gas industry is heavily reliant on trucks during the development and construction of oil wells. The roads and bridges in the Permian Basin were originally designed to provide access for agricultural purposes and not to withstand high traffic volumes or continuous heavy loads. Trucks will continue to be the dominant shipping mode as development and production are projected to continue throughout the energy sector well into the foreseeable future. TxDOT's efforts will help improve the infrastructure in areas that have experienced significant degradation and continuous truck traffic congestion.

Thank you for your consideration of these projects that will contribute to both the Texas and national economy, as well as the nation's energy independence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ed Emmett", is written over a light blue circular background.

Ed Emmett
Harris County Judge



Kim Halfmann

Glasscock County Judge

P.O. Box 67

Garden City, TX 79739

(432) 354-2639

Fax (432) 354-2348

email: kim.halfmann@co.glasscock.tx.us

June 28, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for TxDOT BUILD Grant Applications

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing in support of the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. TxDOT is submitting the following projects for the USDOT BUILD grant program: Reeves County Improvement Project, Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project, Winkler County Improvement Project, and Glasscock County Improvement Project.

While oil and gas production in the Permian Basin is booming with no end in sight, the roads and bridges connecting the oil fields have taken a tremendous beating and are degrading daily due to the increase in truck traffic needed to support industry activities. In addition, our small towns are experiencing unheard of traffic congestion and bottlenecks, with cars and trucks backed up for miles at intersections. We've also seen a spike in traffic accidents. While just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin, ten percent of all traffic fatalities occur here. With pipelines nearing capacity, truck traffic is only expected to increase.

TxDOT's Program of Projects will address these issues at four separate locations by adding critical safety and congestion improvement components including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement. These projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan developed in conjunction with local and regional governments and citizen input. The BUILD grant funds will be leveraged with state funds originating from oil and gas severance taxes to assist TxDOT in making rural connectivity a priority in delivering a fully integrated transportation system.

The Permian Basin production is expected to double by 2023 so the time is now to implement road and grade crossing improvements. Local oil and gas production contributes to the nation's energy independence and national security and transportation costs, reliability, resiliency and speed to market are critical factors to competitiveness, not just for the oil and gas industry but for agriculture industries that use the same local roads. For these reasons, I ask for your full consideration and funding of TxDOT's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kim Halfmann".

Kim Halfmann
Glasscock County Judge

OFFICE of the COUNTY JUDGE

CHARLES M. WOLF ~ WINKLER COUNTY



*P.O. Drawer Y
Kermit, TX 79745
(432) 586-6658
Fax (432) 586-3223*

*Debbie Simmons
Administrative Assistant*

July 6, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for TxDOT BUILD Grant Applications

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing in support of the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. TxDOT is submitting the following projects for the USDOT BUILD grant program: Reeves County Improvement Project, Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project, Winkler County Improvement Project, and Glasscock County Improvement Project.

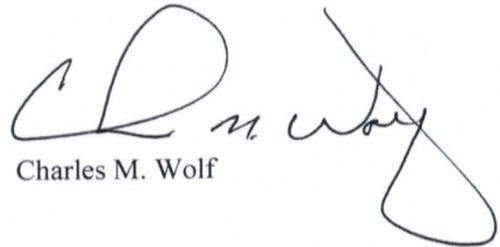
While oil and gas production in the Permian Basin is booming with no end in sight, the roads and bridges connecting the energy sector have taken a tremendous beating and are degrading daily due to the dramatic increase in truck traffic needed to support industry activities. In addition, our small towns are experiencing unheard of traffic congestion and bottlenecks, with cars and trucks backed up for miles at intersections. We've also seen a tremendous spike in traffic accidents in Winkler County, only to achieve the highest per capita accidents and fatalities in the State of Texas. While just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin, ten percent of all traffic fatalities occur here. This coupled with the new and evolving Frac Sand Industry in Winkler County has created some of the most problematic road issues we have seen. At the last count we have 9 Frac Sand mines in various stages of construction and some at full operation with more at various stages in the permitting. It is hard to estimate the number of trucks for each mine at this time, but each mine if operating at full capacity would be moving anywhere from 400-800 trucks daily and some with even greater capacity. When you add all the different industries together along with the shortage of pipelines nearing capacity and place them on our existing inadequate road system we are failing by leaps and bounds.

Winkler County along with TXDOT and several mining companies have worked together to come up with solutions to the road issues by cooperative agreements for road construction and maintenance. The Frac Sand companies are putting in large cash donations and paying for road construction by resurfacing county roads and helping in maintenance. By this industry paying for the construction of turning lanes, acceleration lanes, and deceleration lanes the safety for every person traveling in Winkler County is improved. Efforts such as these are a tremendous contribution to the overall plan and are greatly appreciated, but we are in desperate need of much more to make the roads safe for everyone.

TxDOT's Program of Projects will address these issues at four separate locations by adding critical safety and congestion improvement components including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement. These projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan developed in conjunction with local and regional governments and citizen input. The BUILD grant funds will be leveraged with state funds originating from oil and gas severance taxes to assist TxDOT in making rural connectivity a priority in delivering a fully integrated transportation system.

The Permian Basin production is expected to double by 2023 so now is the time to implement road and grade crossing improvements. Local oil and gas production contributes to the nation's energy independence and national security. Transportation costs, reliability, resiliency and speed to market are critical factors to competitiveness, not just for the oil and gas industry but for agriculture industries that use the same local roads. For these reasons, I/We ask for your full consideration and funding of TxDOT's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. M. Wolf", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Charles M. Wolf



AGC OF TEXAS



Highway, Heavy, Utilities & Industrial Branch
JENNIFER WOODARD, Executive Vice President

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Madam Secretary-

I write today to express the Associated General Contractors of Texas' (AGC) full support of the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) four BUILD grant applications comprising the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. We appreciate the Administration's focus on infrastructure improvements and applaud USDOT for making this much needed grant available.

As you are aware, Texas is a national leader in oil and gas exploration. Texas is fortunate to find itself at the forefront of new shale play discoveries, the Permian Basin being one of those. The Permian Basin represents ten percent of Texas' economy and thirty percent of all national oil and gas production. Oil rig counts in the Permian Basin totaled 444 on April 6, 2018, which is an increase from 113 at the same time in 2017. As production increases so does truck traffic and therefore TxDOT's maintenance needs on energy sector roads. More than 1,700 miles of improvements are currently planned by TxDOT to include pavement strengthening, addition of shoulder, passing, and travel lanes, a large portion of these lanes are located in the Permian Basin. As a representative of the industry that works in these areas of the state, AGC understands firsthand the importance of properly maintaining energy sector roads. TxDOT's BUILD grant applications has identified many of the roads in most need of maintenance.

Additionally, there are safety projects that need to be addressed on roads in the Permian Basin. There has been a significant number of traffic fatalities in the Permian Basin and TxDOT continues to find ways to prioritize and fund safety projects in this area. AGC strongly supports all efforts to fund safety projects across the state as this is very important to not only our industry working on the roads, but also as users of the roads. According to TxDOT, just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin area, however ten percent of all traffic fatalities take place in the Permian Basin. TxDOT's BUILD grant applications propose to address many of the needed safety improvements in the area.

For the reasons stated above, AGC of Texas believes that TxDOT has put together a very well thought out proposal to address some of our most critical needs in the Permian Basin. The USDOT's BUILD program will play an important part in improving infrastructure not only in Texas, but across the nation. Again, I want to express my gratitude to the Administration for its focus on infrastructure and, on behalf of AGC of Texas and our numerous members who live and work in the area, I ask for your favorable consideration of TxDOT's BUILD grant applications to help fund maintenance needs and improve safety in the Permian Basin.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Woodard
Executive Vice President

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590



RE: Texas Department of Transportation BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

As you are well aware, the Permian Basin has become one of the most prolific oil and gas plays nationally and internationally, making it the engine of America's energy resurgence. By 2023, the Permian is projected to have doubled. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation is one of many companies that has invested heavily in the Basin with expectations of long-term growth and sustainability.

Our commitment to the region has been demonstrated in many ways - one of note is our coordination with TxDOT, other industry partners and local community leaders to prioritize roadway improvement projects and ensure that the Basin has appropriate infrastructure for safe and sustainable communities.

While only two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin, approximately ten percent of our state's vehicle fatalities come from this region. This is a staggering number which consequently will increase if the infrastructure needs of the region are not addressed as the economic vitality of the Permian continues to grow.

With that in mind, we urge strong consideration be given to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. The application comprises of four projects: (1) Reeves County Improvement Project, (2) Reeves and Loving County connectivity Project, (3) Winkler County Improvement Project, and (4) Glasscock County Improvement Project. Each of these will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will reduce life-cycle costs. These projects are crucial to provide needed resources in a part of the country that represents ten percent of our state's economy and 30 percent of all U.S. oil and natural gas production.

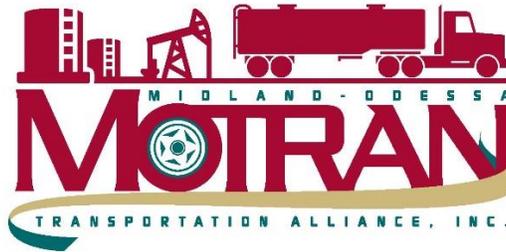
Thank you for your consideration and we hope that you will support the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement projects which represent a collaborative and necessary part of our state's transportation system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chad McAllaster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chad McAllaster

Vice President, Delaware Basin Development



July 8, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Secretary Chao:

The Permian Basin is the leading oilfield in the U.S., and would constitute the third largest member of OPEC, producing over 3 million barrels of crude and 8 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day. Currently, we produce 30% of the US oil and gas supply. We account for just over 10% of the State of Texas's economy.

With only 2% of our state's population, those numbers are impressive. However, we also account for nearly 10% of the traffic fatalities in Texas. Our transportation system is insufficient to accommodate the types of large truck traffic and volume of freight needed to sustain energy production for the U.S. The vast majority of state funds are currently directed to congestion relief efforts, which means the needs of the Permian Basin will not be addressed unless we are able to access the BUILD grant funding for projects in the Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program.

In TXDOT's Freight Plan, currently truck miles here in the Central Permian Basin are underestimated by over half a billion miles a year, based on trips that we know must take place just to dispose of produced water. The lack of funding available in the energy sector, coupled with lack of formula funding due to inaccurate truck miles, literally, threatens to cripple the industry and places the lives of residents in danger, every day, even while we continue to supply a safe, sufficient, and affordable supply of energy to fuel our state and national economies. We also anticipate adding an additional 4,000 to 4,500 trucks, daily, over the next few years, as crude oil production has outpaced current pipeline capacity.

Again, we appreciate your consideration and would respectfully request your support for this initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'James Beauchamp' with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Beauchamp
President, MOTRAN Alliance



July 13, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Texas Department of Transportation BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write today to encourage your support to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects submitted by the Texas Department of Transportation. These projects will greatly enhance critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will improve road conditions in the Permian Basin region of Texas.

The Permian Basin Petroleum Association is headquartered in Midland, Texas and represents the Permian Basin oil and gas industry. The Permian Basin is the most prolific oil field in North America and leads the state and nation in every aspect of the industry. Seventy percent of the oil produced in Texas comes from the Permian. The industry continues to grow in our region and this puts additional strain on our transportation infrastructure.

The Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will reduce life-cycle costs. The included projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan that partnered with local and regional governments, and sought input from citizens and private entities to leverage state funding sources originating from energy resource production including oil and gas severance taxes and general revenue sources.

The application comprises of four projects: (1) Reeves County Improvement Project, (2) Reeves and Loving County connectivity Project, (3) Winkler County Improvement Project, and (4) Glasscock County Improvement Project. We encourage full funding of each of these projects.

These specific projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan that partnered with local and regional governments and sought input from citizens and private entities to leverage state funding sources originating from energy resource production, including oil and gas severance taxes and general revenue sources.

As the industry continues to experience intense activity, challenges arise to timely meet the demands on the roads. In fact, while just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin area, an alarming ten percent of all traffic fatalities take place in this very region.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope that you will support the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement projects which represent a collaborative and necessary part of our state's transportation system and economic stability.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Shepperd". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ben Shepperd
President



Working Together For Safer Roads

July 12, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Texas Department of Transportation BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Permian Road Safety Coalition (PRSC) represents the Oil and Gas industry operators, transportation and service companies and government and non-government organizations that have formed a coalition to work together for safer roads in the Permian Basin in West Texas. The Permian Basin in West Texas has become the epicenter of oil and gas development in the United States. The increase in development activities has brought significant impacts to the transportation infrastructure in the Permian Basin. These activities are expected to continue to grow, and in some cases double, over the next several years.

We request your consideration be given to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. These projects will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will reduce life-cycle costs.

The application comprises of four projects: (1) Reeves County Improvement Project, (2) Reeves and Loving County connectivity Project, (3) Winkler County Improvement Project, and (4) Glasscock County Improvement Project.

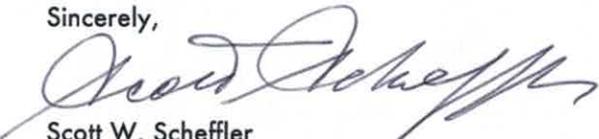
The BUILD grants are needed in order to timely meet the demands on the roads in the Permian Basin. In fact, while just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin area, an alarming ten percent of all traffic fatalities take place in this very region. The roadways targeted in the Texas grant application will make an immediate difference in road safety in the main energy industry operating area.

These projects are crucial to provide needed resources in a part of the country that represents ten percent of our state's economy and 30% of all national oil and natural gas production. The Permian Basin's success and future are critical to meet our nation's energy security needs. If the Permian Basin was a country, it would be the third largest member of OPEC behind Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

The PRSC views these road infrastructure projects as critical projects that will immediately improve the safety of our industry employees, contractors, supplies and community members that use these roads every day. To further demonstrate support, the PRSC's board has authorized the contribution of \$25,000 in funding to the Texas Department of Transportation to further assist with these specific projects.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope that you will support the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement projects.

Sincerely,



Scott W. Scheffler
Chairman of the Board
Permian Road Safety Coalition
150 N. Dairy Ashford
Houston, TX 77079



Shell Exploration & Production Company
200 N. Dairy Ashford
Houston, TX 77079
United States of America

July 13, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Texas Department of Transportation BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Permian Basin in West Texas has become the epicenter of oil and gas development in the United States. The increase in development activities has brought significant impacts to the transportation infrastructure in the Permian Basin. These activities are expected to continue to grow, and in some cases double, over the next several years. We request your consideration be given to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects.

These projects will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will reduce lifecycle costs. The application comprises of four projects: (1) Reeves County Improvement Project, (2) Reeves and Loving County connectivity Project, (3) Winkler County Improvement Project, and (4) Glasscock County Improvement Project.

The BUILD grants are needed in order to timely meet the demands on the roads in the Permian Basin. In fact, while just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin area, an alarming ten percent of all traffic fatalities take place in this very region. The roadways targeted in the Texas grant application will make an immediate difference in road safety in the main energy industry operating area.

These projects are crucial to provide needed resources in a part of the country that represents ten percent of our state's economy and 30% of all national oil and natural gas production. The Permian Basin's success and future are critical to meet our nation's energy security needs. If the Permian Basin was a country, it would be the third largest member of OPEC behind Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Shell Exploration & Production Company (Shell) views these road infrastructure projects as critical projects that will immediately improve the safety of our employees and contractors that use these road interchanges multiple times a day. To further demonstrate our support, Shell is contributing \$40,000 to the Texas Department of Transportation to further assist with the funding of these projects.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope that you will support the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement projects which represent a collaborative and necessary part of our state's transportation system and economic stability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gretchen Watkins', is located below the 'Sincerely,' text.

Gretchen Watkins
Executive Vice President, Unconventionals
Shell Exploration & Production Company



July 9, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: TxDOT BUILD Grant Application – Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects

Dear Secretary Chao,

The Texas Association of Manufacturers (TAM) is composed of more than 500 small and large businesses from across the state. We work to promote and protect a pro-growth business environment to ensure a strong manufacturing sector and a competitive Texas.

TAM strongly supports fully funding the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects, including (1) Reeves County Improvement Project; (2) Reeves and Loving County Connectivity project; (3) Winkler County Improvement Project; and (4) Glasscock County Improvement Project.

Production in the Permian Basin continues to increase, with growth projected to double by 2023. The Permian produces 3.2 million barrels per day, making it the largest producing onshore oil field in North America. This growth, coupled with the need for more infrastructure has increased traffic in the region, creating congestion and safety concerns.

The Permian Basin represents ten percent of the Texas economy and 30 percent of all national oil and gas production. Funding these projects is critical to the economic competitiveness of our state and nation, as the Permian Basin continues to produce oil and gas for the all Americans.

The Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects will help improve congestion and safety in the Permian Basin, while increasing connectivity and ensuring the region remains economically competitive. We urge you to consider fully funding them. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard A. Bennett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "R".

Richard A. "Tony" Bennett
President & CEO

July 10, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Secretary Chao,

On behalf of the Texas Association of REALTORS®, the state's largest professional association, comprised of over 120,000 members working in all aspects of the housing and real estate industry, I offer our support for the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects BUILD Grant application, and encourage its full and complete funding.

The Texas Department of Transportation proposes to use the Program of Projects to provide rural Texans and the energy industry in Glasscock, Loving, Reeves, and Winkler counties with critical safety and congestion improvement projects such as grade separations, wider roads, and stronger pavements.

The Permian Basin represents 30 percent of the nation's oil and gas production, and the region is the leading driver of country's record-breaking oil production rates in 2018. This boom has been a result of remarkable innovation and concentrated construction of drilling rigs – and more people are needed to build and operate it all. The City of Midland has been the national housing market leader for several consecutive months, and the surrounding communities show similar rates of housing needs and sales.

The rapidly increasing population, heavy truck traffic, and overall construction has put significant pressure on the existing transportation infrastructure network, which does not have the appropriate design or capacity to support such quick growth. Traffic accidents in the region increased 18 percent in 2018, and the area accounts for 10 percent of total statewide traffic fatalities – while only housing 2 percent of the state's total residents. Further, current roadways were not built to withstand constant weight of heavy rigging machinery, and potholes and disrepair are making the area increasingly un navigable. And in the real estate industry, we see concerns about safety and unprecedented commute times having a significant impact on consumers' home location choices, meaning many neighborhoods become undesirable for potential relocation.

Full BUILD funding of TxDOT's Program of Projects application will give this economically crucial region the structural support it needs to ensure the Permian Basin can continue to provide its share of oil and gas to the nation, keep gas prices down, protect its long- and short-term residents, and position the United States to become the top oil producer in the world.

Thank you for your consideration.



Kaki Lybbert
2018 Chairman of the Board
Texas Association of REALTORS®
p. (512) 480-8200



June 29, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Funding of Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects

Dear Madam Secretary:

The Texas Alliance of Energy Producers writes this letter to urge the U. S. Department of Transportation to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects as listed in the Texas Department of Transportation Application Package. This application is in response to the DOT issued Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the BUILD Grant program of April 20, 2018.

The Program of Projects Application comprises of the following four applications:

- o 1-Reeves County Improvement Project
- o 2-Reeves and Loving County connectivity Project
- o 3-Winkler County Improvement Project
- o 4-Glasscock County Improvement Project

(The Program of Projects Application Components are also attached.)

The Alliance is a Texas based oil and gas trade association representing approximately 3,000 Independent oil and gas operators, producers, and service companies which produce hydrocarbons throughout the State of Texas. Our membership includes several hundred companies which are active in the Permian Basin of Texas, producing from both conventional and unconventional wells.

The Alliance, as a leader in the Texas industry, has and continues to support the funding of energy sector roads, both at the State and Federal levels. This funding is critical to providing rural Texans and the energy industry with safe roadways and congestion improvement projects.

The funding of the four listed projects are important to economic competitiveness, but also are paramount to road safety, and national energy security. Oil and gas Production in the U. S. and In the Permian Basin has now set record levels not seen since 1972. The area is booming; the rig count is increasing; and, 30% of all U. S. production comes from the area. And, Permian Basin growth is projected to double by 2023. There will be a continued increase of activity with significant damage to roads from water, sand, equipment and product hauling.

Attached, you will also find data compiled in the Alliance Texas Permian Basin Petroleum Index which documents the past, current and projected activity levels in the Permian Basin.

Secretary Chao, we greatly appreciate your consideration and support of these applications. For all the reasons listed above, these are important projects, not only for the citizens of West Texas and the oil and gas companies, but for the Nation and our energy security.

Should there be questions or concerns, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Jim Beck, Chairman
Texas Alliance of Energy Producers



John Tintera, President
Texas Alliance of Energy Producers

John Tintera, President
Texas Alliance of Energy Producers – Austin Office
1000 West Ave., Suite B
Austin, TX 78701



RUSSELL W. BOENING
President

MARK R. CHAMBLEE
Vice President

SCOTT FRAZIER
Secretary-Treasurer

PAT D. MCDOWELL
Shamrock

DAN B. SMITH
Lockney

MARK DANIEL
Seymour

BEN F. WIBLE
Sherman

MARK R. CHAMBLEE
Tyler

VAL STEPHENS
Lamesa

JESSICA RICHMOND
De Leon

NEIL F. WALTER
Oglesby

LARRY W. JOINER
Huntington

RONNIE MUENNINK
Hondo

ALLEN KAMINSKI
Sealy

ZACHARY X. YANTA
Runge

SCOTT FRAZIER
Chapman Ranch

July 9, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Secretary Chao:

I write in support of Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) BUILD Grant application for the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. Dependable, safe infrastructure is not only vital for economic growth, but the wellbeing for the communities and families who call the region home.

Rural areas across Texas have seen a significant increase in energy production. While this energy boom has led to Texas and the US becoming more energy independent, with it comes all the activity to make it happen. West Texas' Permian Basin region is projected to double output by 2024. The projects in TxDOT's application across Reeves, Winkler, Loving, and Glasscock will facilitate energy independence but also improve the infrastructure for those in agriculture and raise their families there.

Texas Farm Bureau has had a presence in the region for generations, and while we have lived side-by-side with the energy sector, the past decade has truly seen unbelievable growth. Our members for several years have been erring concerns about the safety of the roads and the BUILD grant will help make that happen. The projects will improve congestion points, make roads wider, and build new roads to stronger specification minimizing life-cycle costs.

It is important to note TxDOT's attention to other energy regions as well. This particular grant can allow TxDOT to prioritize other projects in regions experiencing similar growth and concern. Agriculture is a much more permanent way of life. Our members were there before the energy industry's growth, will be there once it leaves and they need dependable infrastructure.

The acceptance of this project will mean safer roads for all Texans. I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to a favorable outcome for West Texas.

Sincerely,

Michael Pacheco
Assoc. Legislative Director

MP:amg



David Killam
Chairman

D. Todd Staples
President

July 06, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Texas Department of Transportation BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

As you know, the U.S. has become a global leader in energy production due, in large part, to a surge in oil and natural gas production in the Permian Basin of West Texas and Southeast New Mexico. This basin has the potential to thrive for the foreseeable future with growth anticipated to double in the next five years. Activity associated with delivering the full promise of the Permian Basin is beginning to exceed the capacity of the roadway infrastructure.

I urge consideration be given to fully fund the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects submitted by the Texas Department of Transportation. These projects will provide rural Texans and the energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvement projects including grade separations, wider roads and stronger pavement that will reduce life-cycle costs. The application comprises of four projects: (1) Reeves County Improvement Project, (2) Reeves and Loving County Connectivity Project, (3) Winkler County Improvement Project, and (4) Glasscock County Improvement Project.

Our state, local communities and industry are working hard to collaboratively address the situation and ensure the safety and effectiveness of roads in the region. These specific projects have been prioritized based on a roadway improvement plan that partnered with local and regional governments and sought input from citizens and private entities to leverage state funding sources originating from energy resource production, including oil and gas severance taxes and general revenue sources. In fiscal year 2017, the Texas oil and natural gas industry paid over \$11 billion in state and local taxes and state royalties.

While just two percent of Texans live in the Permian Basin area, an alarming ten percent of the state's traffic fatalities take place in this very region. Improved road infrastructure is crucial to the communities that are delivering ten percent of our state's economy and 30% of all national oil and natural gas production. The Permian Basin's success and future are critical to meet our nation's energy security needs.

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
July 6, 2018
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration and we hope that you will support the Texas Department of Transportation's Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Projects which represent a collaborative and necessary part of our state's transportation system and economic stability.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd Staples". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Todd Staples
President



Texas Pipeline Association

Thure Cannon
President

July 12, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Madame Secretary Chao:

Please find this letter from the Texas Pipeline Association (TPA) urging your favorable consideration of fully funding the Texas Energy Sector Rural Improvement Program of Projects. TPA is an organization composed of over 40 member companies who gather, process, treat and transport natural gas and hazardous materials through intrastate pipelines in Texas. We are submitting this letter of support for funding as many of our member companies operate pipelines and pipeline facilities in and around the Permian Basin and utilize the highways and roadways in the area. Funding of the program of projects will increase the overall traffic safety and provide the Texas energy industry with critical safety and congestion improvements.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this request of consideration of funding. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and we at TPA applaud your leadership and service to our country.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thure Cannon'.

Thure Cannon
President

July 1, 2018

TEXAS SHEEP AND GOAT RAISERS ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 2290

San Angelo, Texas 76902

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U. S. Dept of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S. E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Honorable Elaine L. Chao;

This letter is in support of the Texas Department of Transportation's application for funding – as provided in the 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act. The Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association – TSGRA- represents a major sector of the economy in the regions of west Texas – in which this grant would be utilized.

Reeves – Loving – Winkler and Glasscock Counties are in the very heart of one of the major sheep and goat producing areas in Texas – as well as the United States. The needed improvements which will take place – upon TxDOT's being approved for the program - will facilitate a multitude of roadway improvement factors. In today's modern sheep and goat production process – all livestock is moved by trucks. Some of these hauls to market are lengthy – and begin in the heart of the four-county area described in this grant application.

There are several factors involved – which are of concern to those of us in this industry. Primarily – the human safety factor is at the head of our concern. There is also an animal welfare – health and safety factor – which is of concern to our industry. Our concern is compounded by the congestion of the ever-growing traffic created by the oil and gas industry. Due to inadequate roadways – with limited shoulders and passing lanes - livestock trucks can create unsafe traffic situations for general automobile travel. When our livestock remains on these trucks for too many hours – terrific weight shrink takes place – which greatly reduces our agricultural income.

We sincerely believe that this grant would greatly improve the safety factor for human travel – as well as – providing a appreciable economic boost to the general West Texas economy. The oil and gas industry truck traffic is astronomical – which only adds to our concern with our own livestock haulers.

Based on our observation – we strongly urge that favorable consideration be given to funding this very important BUILD grant application – for the western areas of Texas. TSGRA stands ready to provide any further information – or insight – which you or your agency might feel helpful. Feel free to text – write or call for any clarification which we might provide – as you consider this request.

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