



Aaron Hegeman
Director
Public Private Partnerships

BNSF Railway Company
2500 Lou Menk Drive, AOB-3
Fort Worth, Texas 76131-2830
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Cell: 817.313.9167
aaron.hegeman@bnsf.com

August 19, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

This letter is to express BNSF's support of the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Garcitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub, which is BNSF's only route to Corpus Christi and Brownsville. Currently, railcars must be loaded below their full capacity to utilize this route. By enabling the use of fully loaded bulk railcars and other heavy loads, this project will improve operations and provide another routing alternative for the transportation of heavy cargo to the ports' multimodal facilities, including export grain elevators and dry and liquid bulk terminals.

Due to this improvement in efficiency, we believe the Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas offers many economic benefits to the South Texas region, the State of Texas, and the Nation.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Hegeman", written in a cursive style.

Aaron Hegeman
Director, Public Private Partnerships

SOLOMON P. ORTIZ
27TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

2110 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-7742

DISTRICT OFFICES:
3649 LEOPARD ST., SUITE 510
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78408
361-803-5868

1805 RUBEN TORRES BLVD., SUITE B-27
BROWNSVILLE, TX 78521
956-541-1242

[HTTP://ORTIZ.HOUSE.GOV](http://ORTIZ.HOUSE.GOV)

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

August 9, 2010

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN, READINESS
SEAPOWERS AND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
AVIATION

The Honorable Secretary Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I write in support of the joint grant application by the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville for the Rail Capacity Expansion project to the United States Department of Transportation's TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

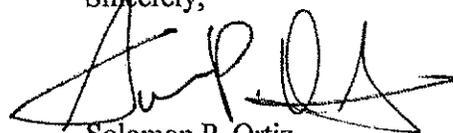
As you know, ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners and I represent a handful of ports within my congressional district. Our ports are a vital contributor to ensure our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should be a primary focus within our country's transportation plan.

The \$16,500,00 Rail Capacity Expansion project in South Texas will benefit the rail operations at the Port of Corpus Christi, the Port of Brownsville, as well as three serving railroads: BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargo movement at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

In accordance with federal guidelines, I offer my support to the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville partnership as they develop the Rail Capacity Expansion in South Texas that will create new jobs, and support shippers and receivers in the region, state of Texas and our nation. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Solomon P. Ortiz
Member of Congress

JOHN CORNYN
TEXAS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4305
August 5, 2010

Mr. Dana Gresham
Assistant Secretary for Government Affairs
Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast
Washington, District of Columbia 20590

Dear Assistant Secretary Gresham:

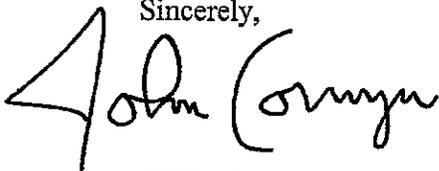
I am writing to express my support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) II application submitted to the Department of Transportation by the Port of Corpus Christi (POCC), in partnership with the Port of Brownsville.

As you and your staff review the proposal, I trust you will give full consideration to the many strengths of this application. As you know, the two ports are seeking TIGER II funding to upgrade two older Union Pacific bridges over the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek to handle heavier loads. The project will improve the rail infrastructure into and out of the two ports, reducing congestion and improving cargo transportation as a result. I have been informed that the application is supported by Union Pacific, Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Kansas City Southern railroads. Additionally, the POCC is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and moves military equipment by rail to and from military installations.

I would appreciate your efforts to ensure that I am kept informed as to the progress of this application. Please contact Andrew Blaylock, my Grants Coordinator, with any developments regarding this proposal as soon as they are available.

Thank you for your assistance and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Cornyn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator

JC:ab

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4304

August 10, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

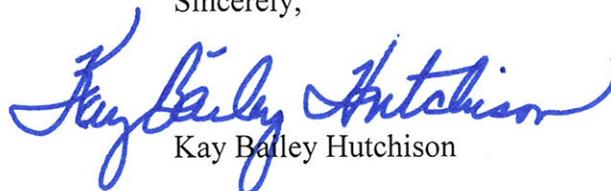
Dear Mr. LaRue:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the grant proposal submitted to the United States Department of Transportation. I appreciate the information you provided about your grant proposal, and I am pleased to support the application.

I have contacted the Department on your behalf and have encouraged the grant office to carefully consider the merits of this grant proposal. Your project will have a positive impact on the community by improving the rail system, leading to a more efficient and economical movement of goods and military equipment and strengthening the region's economy.

I am committed to ensuring that each grant application receives a fair and thorough review, and you may be certain that I will continue to monitor the progress of this proposal. As the application process moves forward, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Kay Bailey Hutchison

KBH/lis



THE SENATE OF TEXAS
JUAN "CHUY" HINOJOSA
DISTRICT 20

COMMITTEES
JURISPRUDENCE
NATURAL RESOURCES
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS

COMMITTEES
FINANCE *Vice Chair*
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
SUNSET ADVISORY COMMISSION
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

August 18, 2010

John P. LaRue, Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P.O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

I want to share my support for the joint application submitted by the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville for a \$16,500,000 federal grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

These ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners. They are vital to our nation's economic recovery and investments in infrastructure are fundamental building blocks for continued economic growth.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as the three railroads that service this region - BNSF, KCS and UP - by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The grant funding would efficiencies in cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including:

- the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community;
- the wind turbine equipment import industry, targeting expanded energy independence goals; and
- the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry.

Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations. The project will also eliminate weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route.

I believe these upgrades will benefit shippers and receivers in this region and Texas as a whole, creating new jobs and contributing to the long-term economic competitiveness of the U.S. I applaud both ports for partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge the U.S. DOT to invest in your project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juan 'Chuy' Hinojosa".

Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa
State Senator, District 20

612 NOLANA, SUITE 410-B
McALLEN, TEXAS 78504-3089
956/972-1841 • 956/664-0602 FAX

P.O. BOX 12068
CAPITOL BUILDING
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711
TOLL FREE: 866/259-5016
512/463-0120 • FAX: 512/463-0229
DIAL 711 FOR RELAY CALLS

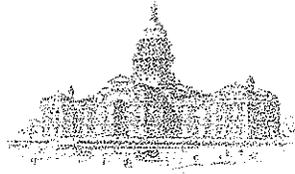
www.senate.state.tx.us

2820 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE, SUITE 291
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78415
361/225-1200 • FAX: 361/225-0119

THE SENATE OF TEXAS

P.O. Box 12068
CAPITOL BUILDING, 3E.18
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711
(512) 463-0127

500 SOUTH KANSAS AVENUE
WESLACO, TEXAS 78956
(956) 968-9927



7 NORTH PARK PLAZA
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS 78521
(956) 548-0227

700 EAST KLEBERG AVENUE
KINGSVILLE, TX 78363
(361) 592-3252

SENATOR
EDDIE LUCIO, JR.

August 11, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P.O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

I wholeheartedly support the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville's joint grant application request through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. I am confident this project will greatly improve the South Texas community.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for the lower Rio Grande Valley will advance the overall rail operations at both Corpus Christi and Brownsville's ports. Additionally it will improve velocity and reduce congestion on three serving railroads: BNSF, KCS, and UP. This leads to further growth for the region including Laredo and Mexico.

I earnestly support the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville's joint grant application request because of the valuable contributions it will make to Texas. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you possess questions.

Sincerely,

Eddie Lucio, Jr.
State Senator

ELJ/klm





State of Texas
House of Representatives

TODD HUNTER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 32

(COUNTIES: ARANSAS, CALHOUN, NUECES (PART), SAN PATRICIO)

CAPITOL OFFICE:

P.O. Box 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910
PHONE: (512) 463-0672
FAX: (512) 463-2101
WWW.HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

DISTRICT OFFICE:

15217 S.P.I.D. SUITE 205
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS
78418-6196
PHONE: (361) 949-4603
FAX: (361) 949-4634

August 4, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

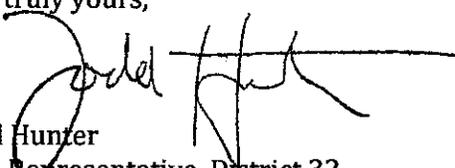
After reviewing your proposal to obtain a \$16,500,000 federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program to improve the rail infrastructure and transportation networks of the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville, I would like to convey my enthusiastic support for the project.

Ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners, so investments in their infrastructures should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three railroads by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate rail car storage track is essential for growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub, which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improving throughput of current freight, this development would contribute to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo, and Mexico. Furthermore, the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the region and in the state of Texas. Also, it will potentially create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region.

For these reasons, I offer my full support for the joint project proposed by the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,


Todd Hunter
State Representative, District 32

ABEL HERRERO



CAPITOL OFFICE:
P.O. Box 2910
AUSTIN, TX 78768-2910
(512) 463-0462
FAX (512) 463-1705

DISTRICT OFFICE:
606 N. CARANCAHUA
SUITE 103A
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78401-0690
(361) 882-2277
FAX (361) 882-6706

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

August 13, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

I fully support the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads (BNSF, KCS and UP) by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly aid in the transportation of cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Rail has also proven to be vital in mobilizing and deploying military equipment needed to support our armed forces. Ports are also critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub, which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improvements of current freight, this leads also to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville and Laredo.

I am confident this project will greatly improve the region, State of Texas and our Nation. For the aforementioned reasons, I respectfully request that U.S. DOT invest in this valuable rail project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abel Herrero".

Abel Herrero
State Representative, District 34



DISTRICT 34 • NUECES (PART)

ABEL.HERRERO@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

CAPITOL OFFICE:

(512) 463-0484
(512) 463-7834 FAX
P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TX 78768-2910



DISTRICT OFFICE:

(361) 991-0047
FAX (361) 991-0625
5959 S. STAPLES, SUITE 222
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78413

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SOLOMON P. ORTIZ, JR.

August 16, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

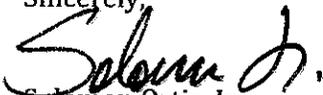
I fully support the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

Ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners. They are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

I believe the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the region, state of Texas and our nation, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our nation. I applaud both ports for partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge U.S. DOT to invest in your project.

Sincerely,


Solomon Ortiz, Jr.





René O. Oliveira
Texas House of Representatives
District 37

P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
(512) 463-0640
Fax (512) 463-8186

P.O. Box 2315
855 W. Price Rd., Ste. 22
Brownsville, Texas 78522
(956) 542-1828
Fax (956) 542-1618

August 9, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

Thank you so much for your work on the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. As chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means and former chairman of the House Committee on Economic Development in the Texas Legislature, I understand the importance of transportation infrastructure to job creation, increased business activity, safety, and prosperity. I fully support your efforts and believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry.

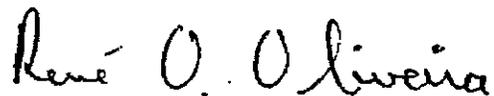
In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

The Port of Corpus Christi is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and annually moves thousands of pieces of military equipment overseas.

Mr. John P. LaRue
August 9, 2010
Page 2

This important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. I believe this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "René O. Oliveira". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and "O".

René O. Oliveira
State Representative
District 37



City of
Corpus
Christi

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Joe Adame

PO Box 9277

Corpus Christi

Texas 78469-9277

Phone 361-826-3100

Fax 361-826-3103

www.cctexas.com

August 5, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

The City of Corpus Christi fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

Ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners. They are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

The City of Corpus Christi believes the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the region, state of Texas and our nation, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our nation. I applaud both ports for partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge U.S. DOT to invest in your project.

Sincerely,

Joe Adame
Mayor

JA/kd



Charlie Cabler
City Manager



August 3, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

The City of Brownsville fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads, BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. The Port of Corpus Christi is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and annually moves thousands of pieces of military equipment by rail to and from the Forts and overseas installations.

In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

This important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. We the City of Brownsville believe this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlie Cabler
City Manager

CC:

xc: File

City of Brownsville
P.O. Box 911 / City Hall / 1001 E. Elizabeth St. / Brownsville, Texas 78522
(956) 548-6000
www.cob.us

"EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

Patricio M. Ahumada, Jr.
 Mayor



August 3, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
 Executive Director
 Port of Corpus Christi
 P. O. Box 1541
 Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

The City of Brownsville fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. The Port of Corpus Christi is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and annually moves thousands of pieces of military equipment by rail to and from the Forts and overseas installations.

In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

This important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. We The City of Brownsville believe this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricio M. Ahumada, Jr.

Mayor of The City of Brownsville

City of Brownsville
 P.O. Box 911 / City Hall / 1001 E. Elizabeth St. / Brownsville, Texas 78522
 (956) 548-6000
 www.cob.us
 "EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"



Terry Simpson

County Judge

Room 109

400 West. Sinton St. Rm. 109

Sinton, Texas 78387

Office: 361/364-9301

4 August 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

San Patricio County fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT Tiger Discretionary Grant Program.

Ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners. They are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. The Port of Corpus Christi as a strategic military deployment port, moves thousands of pieces of military equipment annually by rail to and from the port to the Forts and overseas installations.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

San Patricio County believes the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the region, state of Texas and our nation, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our nation. I applaud both ports for partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge U.S. DOT to invest in your project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Simpson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name.

Judge Terry Simpson
San Patricio County



CARLOS H. CASCOS, CPA
COUNTY JUDGE

1100 E. MONROE STREET
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS
78520

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
(956) 544-0830 FAX: (956) 544-0801
1-866-544-0830

August 5, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

Cameron County fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

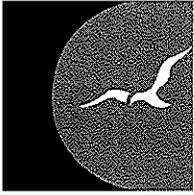
The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. The Port of Corpus Christi is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and annually moves thousands of pieces of military equipment by rail to and from the Forts and overseas installations.

In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

This important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. Cameron County believes this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas.

Sincerely,

Carlos H. Cascos, CPA
County Judge



Coastal Bend Council of Governments

August 4, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P.O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

The Coastal Bend Council of Governments (CBCOG) supports the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. The CBCOG develops a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to guide its economic development efforts. One of the strengths identified in this document is the Port of Corpus Christi. The CEDS also sets out Goals to guide development efforts. One Goal specifically focuses on development of the Port facilities while another Goal addresses the need to make improvements to the Region's transportation system. We recognize the importance of the Port and its facilities to the economy of the Region.

We know that ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners. They are vital to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. This grant to support the project entitled Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as the three railroads serving the ports. With greatly improved efficiency of existing cargos movement at the ports' multimodal facilities, growth will be promoted and facilitated at the export grain elevators, the wind turbine equipment import industry and the petrochemical industry. All these sectors are identified in the CBCOG's CEDS as important to the Region's economy. In addition, military equipment is moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the forts and overseas installations.

We understand that this project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges that will greatly improve the rail infrastructure and transportation network serving the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

The CBCOG believes the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the Region, the state of Texas and our nation; will help create new jobs; and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our nation. We appreciate both ports partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge the U.S. Department of Transportation to invest in your project.

Sincerely,

John P. Buckner
Executive Director
CBCOG



August 4, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

The Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) supports the Port of Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

The MPO recognizes that the Texas Ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners. They are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three Class 1 railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to accommodate heavier loads will greatly aid in the transportation of cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, vital to the region's petrochemical and agricultural industries. As a strategic military Port thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the area Forts and overseas installations.

It is understood that the project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

The MPO knows the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the region, state of Texas and our nation, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our nation. I applaud both ports for partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge the U.S. DOT to invest in your project.

Sincerely,

Tom Niskala, Transportation Planning Director

August 4, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403



Dear Mr. LaRue:

The Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation (CCREDC) fully supports Port Corpus Christi and the Port of Brownsville's joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant Program.

Ports are crucial links to our nation's trading partners. They are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving throughput and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from Port Corpus Christi to military bases and overseas installations.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

CCREDC firmly believes the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the region, the state of Texas and our nation, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our nation. I applaud both ports for partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge U.S. DOT to invest in your project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Mower". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Roland C. Mower CEcD
Chief Executive Officer



Prosperity. Together.

August 4, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P O Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear John,

The Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce wholeheartedly supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

Ports are critical links to our nation's trading partners. They are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS, and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousand of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to both domestic and overseas military installations.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

The Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce believes the project will benefit shippers and receivers in the region, state of Texas and our nation, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our nation. We congratulate both ports for partnering for the greater benefit of the region and urge U.S. DOT to invest in your project.

Sincerely,

Foster Edwards
President & CEO



Nueces County Rural Rail Transportation District

Nueces County Court House
901 Leopard Street, Suite 303
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-3697
Telephone: 361.888.0444 • Fax: 361.888.0445

Commissioners

Tim Clower
President

Joe Guzman
Vice President

Roland Garza
Treasurer

Tyner Little
Secretary

Bob Weatherford
Commissioner

Robert Vanborssum
Commissioner

August 17, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P.O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

The Nueces County Rural Rail Transportation District fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,000,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as two serving railroads: BNSF and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly aid in the transportation of cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations. Ports are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be over looked.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

I am confident this project will greatly improve the region, state of Texas and our nation by supporting existing and new jobs and contribute to keeping our nation competitive for shippers and receivers. I ask that U.S. DOT invest in this valuable rail project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Clower", written over a horizontal line.

Tim Clower, President
NCRRTD

INTERSTATE GRAIN CORPORATION

MEMBER:
NORTH AMERICAN EXPORT GRAIN ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL GRAIN & FEED ASSOCIATION
TEXAS GRAIN & FEED ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 9924
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78469-9924
(361) 289-5651
FAX (361) 289-5653
E-mail: igc@interstategrain.net

August 4, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

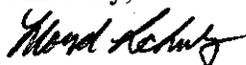
Interstate Grain Corporation fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need for more adequate and efficient rail car storage track is essential to growth and will greatly improve the efficiency of existing cargos movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. The Port of Corpus Christi is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and annually moves thousands of pieces of military equipment by rail to and from the Forts and overseas installations.

In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

This important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. Interstate Grain Corporation believes this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Schultz
Vice President
Interstate Grain Corporation



WestStar Food Co., LLC

1134 East Port Avenue
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
Phone 361-887-9034
Fax 361-887-9846

P.O. Box 23041
Corpus Christi, TX 78403
Email pwallesen@aol.com

August 04, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

WestStar Food Co., LLC fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly improve the transportation system of existing and new cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. The Port of Corpus Christi is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and annually moves thousands of pieces of military equipment by rail to and from the Forts and overseas installations.

In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and

Mexico. This restriction has had a direct impact on our business in the past 2-3 years since the restrictions and enforcement went into affect. Before that time we were able to purchase products and transport in super hopper cars. Since the restrictions went into place we have been limited to 265,000 lb gross weight and our competitors to the north of us in the Houston area are able to receive railcars up to 285,000 lb gross. This gives them a bit of a freight advantage over us.

This important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. WestStar Food Co., LLC believe this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pat Wallesen
Managing Partner
WestStar Food Co., LLC



SHERWIN ALUMINA COMPANY

P.O. Box 9911, Corpus Christi, TX 78469-9911

Direct Dial 361-777-2352

August 16, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

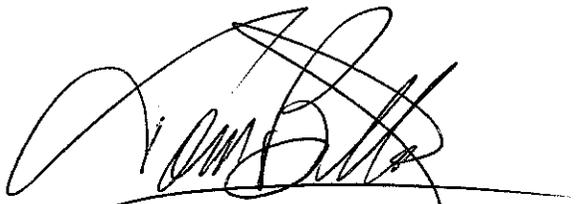
The Sherwin Alumina Company, LLC fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as two serving railroads; BNSF and UP, by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly aid in the transportation of cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical and general chemical industries. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations. Ports are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked.

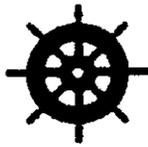
The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

I am confident this project will greatly improve the region, state of Texas and our nation by supporting existing and new jobs and contribute to keeping our nation competitive for shippers and receivers. I ask that U.S. DOT invest in this valuable rail project.

Sincerely,



Tom Ballou, Jr.



DIX-FAIRWAY TERMINALS LLC



August 18, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

Dix-Fairway Terminals fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly improve the transportation system of existing and new cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. The Port of Corpus Christi is also designated as a strategic military deployment port and annually moves thousands of pieces of military equipment by rail to and from the Forts and overseas installations.

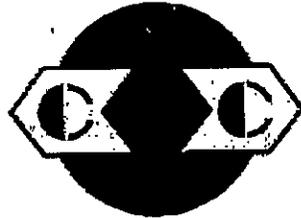
In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

This important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems, create new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. Dix-Fairway Terminals believe this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael N. Ostos
Managing Partner
Dix-Fairway Terminals, L.L.C.





■ Genesee & Wyoming Company

August 19, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

As the rail operator for the Port of Corpus Christi, the Corpus Christi Terminal Railroad would like to express our full support for the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly aid in the transportation of cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations. Ports are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

I am confident this project will greatly improve the region, state of Texas and our nation by supporting existing and new jobs and contribute to keeping our nation competitive for shippers and receivers. I ask that U.S. DOT invest in this valuable rail project.

Sincerely,

John Slubar
Operations Manager



James W. Benz
Chief Operating Officer

August 23, 2010

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

Genesee & Wyoming, owner of the Corpus Christi Terminal Railroad, fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for \$16,500,000 for a federal grant from the U.S. DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly aid in the transportation of cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the forts and overseas installations. Ports are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked.

The project will eliminate the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

We are confident this project will greatly improve the region, state of Texas and our nation by supporting existing and new jobs and contribute to keeping our nation competitive for shippers and receivers, and we ask that U.S. DOT invest in this valuable rail project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. Benz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR**

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION,
LIFELONG LEARNING, AND COMPETITIVENESS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS, INSURANCE,
AND GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED ENTERPRISES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA, THE PACIFIC,
AND THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT



House of Representatives
Rubén Hinojosa
15th District, Texas

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2463 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-2531
FAX: (202) 225-5688

EDINBURG OFFICE:

2864 WEST TRENTON ROAD
EDINBURG, TX 78539
PHONE: (956) 682-5545
FAX: (956) 682-0141

BEEVILLE OFFICE:

107 SOUTH SAINT MARY'S
BEEVILLE, TX 78102
PHONE: (361) 358-8400
FAX: (361) 358-8407

Rep.Hinojosa@mail.house.gov
www.house.gov/hinojosa

August 12, 2010

Mr. John LaRue
Executive Director
The Port of Corpus Christi
PO Box 1541
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-1529

Dear Mr. LaRue:

As the U.S. Congressman for the 15th District of Texas, I would like to convey to you my support for the joint proposal, "Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas," submitted by the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville to Department of Transportation TIGER Discretionary Grant Program

If funded, this proposal would prove instrumental in upgrading two older Union Pacific railroad bridges from a 268,000 lb. load rating to allow the greater capacity 286,000 lb. loads to be carried into and out of this region. The need to upgrade rail infrastructure to handle heavier loads will greatly aid in the transportation of cargo movements at the ports' multimodal facilities, including the export grain elevators that support the country's agricultural community, the wind turbine equipment import industry in support of the country's energy independence goals, and the dry and liquid bulk material trade that is vital to the region's petrochemical industry. Thousands of pieces of military equipment are moved annually by rail to and from the Port of Corpus Christi to the Forts and overseas installations. Ports are critical to our nation's economic well being and their infrastructure investment needs should not be overlooked. The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

I have always believed the right solutions are those that combine community leaders, industry, government and citizens; so I commend the partners on this project for their commitment to meet the needs of our growing region. Once again, I strongly support this commitment to improving the quality of life for my constituents, and I urge your favorable consideration of this application. I would greatly appreciate continuing status on this application. If you have any questions, regarding this application, you may contact me, or my Beeville District Office, at (361) 358-8400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rubén Hinojosa".

Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress
RH/cg

VALLS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Affiliated with:
Valls International (Houston), Inc.
Valls International (Laredo), Inc.

August 19, 2010

POST OFFICE BOX 2505 • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78403
TEL: 361-884-4096 • FAX: 361-883-3289

Mr. John P. LaRue
Executive Director
Port of Corpus Christi
P. O. Box 1541
Corpus Christi, TX 78403

Dear Mr. LaRue:

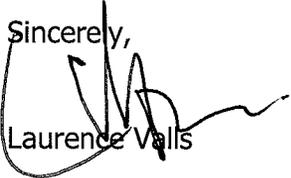
The Valls Group of International Trade and Transportation Service Companies fully supports the Port of Corpus Christi and Port of Brownsville joint grant application request for federal funding through the US DOT TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. We believe this project brings a number of significant benefits to our region.

The Rail Capacity Expansion for South Texas will benefit the overall rail operations at both ports as well as three serving railroads; BNSF, KCS and UP by improving velocity and reducing congestion. We believe the upgrade of rail infrastructure, particularly the ability to handle heavier loads, is critical to allow our customers to be more competitive with other markets regarding existing movements (and potential new movements) of dry bulk minerals and ores.

In addition to improved throughput of current freight, this leads to further growth for the region including Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico. Eliminating the weight restrictions on the Colorado River and Gracitas Creek bridges along UP's Angleton Sub which is BNSF Railways' route will greatly enhance freight mobility to the ports as well as freight access to Brownsville, Laredo and Mexico.

We believe this important project will improve the existing transportation facilities and systems and be important in creating new jobs and contribute to the long term economic competitiveness of our region. The Valls Group believes this is a priority investment for the economic future of Texas.

Sincerely,


Laurence Valls

LAWV/I

Laurence A. Valls

From: Matt D'Amico [mdamico@bulkmaterials.net]
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2010 2:21 PM
To: Laurence A. Valls
Subject: Upgrade to port

Lawrence:

This email is regarding the potential upgrade to rail infrastructure in the port and surrounding areas. I would like to let you know that Bulk Materials International supports this project and will help with our shipments out of the port in the future.

Should you have any questions, feel free to call.

Best regards,

Matt D'Amico | [BULK MATERIALS INTERNATIONAL](#) | Newtown, CT. USA
☎ Phone 203.270.1416 / 📠 Fax 203.270.1931 📶 Cell 203.470.7013
✉ Email mdamico@bulkmaterials.net 🌐 Web www.bulkmaterials.net