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October 13, 2017

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

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Dear Madam Secretary:

I write today to express the Ohio Oil and Gas Association's support of the TIGER Grant application submitted by Stark, Carroll, and Columbiana Counties that would aid in the completion of U.S. Route 30.

The completion of U.S. Route 30 is estimated to cost over \$800 million, however with the financial assistance of the TIGER grant, the entire region could take the first step towards maximizing the much needed economic development potential this project could bring. The creation of this vital connection between the greater Canton region and the greater Pittsburgh region is one that our industry supports.

Our members have invested billions in Ohio over the last five years, which is comprised of lease and royalty payments, upstream, midstream and downstream industry infrastructure with more to come if we have access to the much needed transportation infrastructure.

For these reasons, the Ohio Oil and Gas Association respectfully requests your support for the TIGER grant to kick start this very important regional job creating project

We understand there are many demands on your department with limited funds to meet them so we thank you for your ongoing efforts to support projects like the completion of U.S. Route 30.

Sincerely,



Shawn Bennett
Executive Vice President
Ohio Oil and Gas Association

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