



October 15, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

Earlier this year, our company hosted a delegation of Ohio elected officials at our corporate office in Houston, Texas on a fact-finding mission which included a discussion around Houston's broad infrastructure and access to markets for the oil and natural gas industry. While our corporate office is in Texas, Encino Energy has the largest leasehold of acreage in Ohio where we are investing hundreds of millions in drilling activities.

Our drilling activities require significant use of roads and bridges, therefore any efforts to improve the safety and efficient transport of freight across the state along the Ohio Energy Corridor would be welcomed by our company. In addition, we strongly believe in long-term sustainable economic development for this region and the need to improve infrastructure is a key component to building lifelong communities in Appalachia.

During the fact-finding mission to Houston, we discussed the need to develop a petrochemical "hub" or a local market in the Appalachian Basin. This effort has also been identified by the U.S. Department of Energy as a priority. While we recognize and applaud the U.S. Department of Transportation's recent grant recipients in this region, we also encourage more and ongoing support for northeast and southeaster Ohio in the future. We believe the U.S. Department of Transportation can play an important role in revitalizing this area of the country, and we hope that your office will continue to support projects that encourage long-term economic development, such as the BUILD grant.

As we continue to learn about the vast economic and environmental benefits found through harvesting our domestic natural resources, we stand ready, willing, and able to provide any educational support we can to help your office understand the economic revitalization occurring in Ohio, thanks in large part to the development of oil and natural gas.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackie Stewart", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Jackie Stewart  
Director, External Affairs