



General Teamsters Local Union 326

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters,
Teamsters Joint Council No. 53 and the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Geographical Jurisdiction
The State Of Delaware and portions of Pennsylvania and Maryland

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May 24, 2013

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20539

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Dear Honorable LaHood:

The Diamond State Port Corporation (DSPC) will soon apply for a \$40 million grant under the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2014 TIGER Discretionary Grants (TIGER V) Program in order to rebuild and upgrade the load bearing capacity of Wharf Unit 1 (Berths #5 and #6) at the Port of Wilmington.

Please accept this letter that Teamsters Local Union No. 326 fully supports Diamond State Port Corporation's request to enable timely assemblage of the final application package.

Wharf Unit 1 (Berths #5 and #6) was originally constructed around the year 1922. It has undergone major rehabilitations in 1953 and 1977. Previous evaluations, conducted in 1974, 2000 and 2006, has exhibited deterioration of various degrees and are in need of replacement. The Berths cover 31,600 square feet of dock area and comprise two of seven very important berths at the Port along the Christina River. These berths are used to handle juice concentrate and fruit from Argentina, Moroccan clementines, bananas, pineapples, livestock loadings, bulk commodities and the importation of Antares Rocket Booster Cores. Furthermore, upon application approval and completion of the project, DSPC will be better able to maintain its cargo handling leadership, thereby preserving and increasing the very important related jobs.

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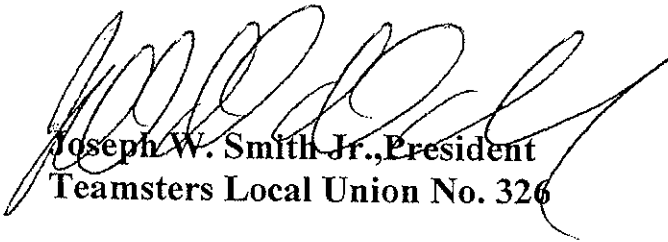


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Additionally, with the added load bearing capacity, the Port of Wilmington will be better positioned to handle larger and heavier wind components for land-based and offshore wind projects. Associated wind energy equipment manufacturers will consider Delaware as a home for their U.S. based production facilities.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this very important matter,

Sincerely,



Joseph W. Smith Jr., President
Teamsters Local Union No. 326

cc: Eugene Bailey, Executive Director, Diamond State Port Corporation
Tom Keefer, Deputy Executive Director, Diamond State Port Corporation
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