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VANCOUVER

May 21, 2013

CALGARY

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

TORONTO

SEATTLE

Re: Port of Wilmington, Delaware's TIGER V Grant Request

Dear Secretary LaHood;

LOS ANGELES

We are pleased to be writing to you in support of the Diamond State Port Corporation/ Port of Wilmington's request of a \$8.4 million TIGER V grant for the rehabilitation of Berth 5 and Berth 6; two important perishable cargo break bulk berths at the port which serve large, modern refrigerated warehouses which are immediately adjacent.

VISALIA

HOUSTON

The Port of Wilmington is the largest perishable cargo destination for imports in the United States, it is the second largest tropical fruit port in the world and a very important member of our logistics supply chain in the US. The Oppenheimer Group is a current and long term customer of Wilmington. From this port we are able to cost effectively supply retailers and consumers throughout the United States and Canada. We have selected Wilmington for a number of commercial and economic reasons, critical among those are its infrastructure and its consistent ability to support our growing, commercially significant and labor intensive imported produce business.

NOGALES

CHICAGO

For the import business segment to be successful we need ports such as Wilmington. It is strategically located in the middle of the consumer-rich mid-Atlantic region and from this port we can serve millions of customers with overnight truck and rail delivery. Like much of the infrastructure in the mid-Atlantic region theirs is in need of rehabilitation. Providing this grant would be just the type of support that President Obama had envisioned when he introduced the TIGER grant program. This project is shovel ready, has the commitment of the Port to invest \$5 million of its limited capital, it will create and sustain hundreds of good paying jobs both during and after the completion of this project and finally, it will significantly improve the infrastructure of this very important marine terminal.

NEWARK

MIAMI

TAMPA

Thank you for giving serious consideration to our request for DOT's award of the requested TIGER V grant to the Port of Wilmington, Delaware.

SANTIAGO

Very truly yours,



Doug Grant
Sr. Vice President & Chief Operations Officer



expect the world from us