

September 10, 2009



Commissioner David Cole  
Maine Department of Transportation  
16 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

Dear Commissioner Cole:

I am writing to express the support of the Maine Port Authority for the Eastport Gateway Project being submitted by the State of Maine under the ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) TIGER Grant Program.

The Maine Port Authority is responsible for improving the global competitiveness of Maine businesses, and for stimulating commerce, by developing marine and rail facilities, and other viable endeavors in a responsible fashion, for the intermodal movement of people and cargo in support of economic development. This project is consistent with these goals.

Additionally, the project is consistent with the state's Three Port Strategy. The Three Port Strategy was developed in 1978 to concentrate investments in the state's deep water facilities and is focused on supporting the development of infrastructure improvements, including rail access.

The Maine Port Authority wholeheartedly supports the development of infrastructure to ensure the viability of the Port of Eastport and the economic vitality of eastern Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Henshaw", written in a cursive style.

John H. Henshaw  
Executive Director