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# SHAWNEE MILLING COMPANY

GOOD MILLERS SINCE 1906



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June 26, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHook  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Honorable Ray LaHook,

This letter is in response to the request that you need for verification of the economic impact that the railroad has on the industrial community here in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

The railroad line from Oklahoma City to Shawnee serves not only Shawnee Milling Company but the other industries north of town and it is the vital link for maintaining our industrial output. Without the railroad coming from Oklahoma City to Shawnee we would have to switch a lot of our ingredients that come here to the mill from railroad to highway trucking, and this in turn would greatly increase our cost of production. This increase in cost of production would make us and I'm sure others in this area noncompetitive in the sale of our products.

The North Canadian River that parallels the railroad in this area is also a main factor that needs to be very seriously controlled and stabilized as you know how it affects the railroad and road bed and track repairs.

With the present status of the river and the railroad we as well as other industries in this area feel very threatened as to our existence in the future. This would have a tremendous impact on many employees and their families in this area.

If there is any further information you need on this I hope you will let me know. Please pass this information on to those who are considering an economic grant that can help in the above situation.

Thank you.

Sincerely Yours,

SHAWNEE MILLING COMPANY

William L. Ford  
President