

Oklahoma State Senate

Senator Mike Schulz



March 16, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

It is a pleasure to write this letter of support for the TIGER IV grant application being submitted by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

If approved, this very creative TIGER IV grant application will be used to develop a new use for existing refinery, pipeline and rail facilities in the vicinity of Thomas, Oklahoma. This project will deliver meaningful economic benefits throughout western Oklahoma.

Our state is blessed with abundant reserves of oil and natural gas that are now being extended by means of new drilling technology. We also are fortunate to have had the foresight to preserve certain segments of rail lines threatened with abandonment 30 years ago that now are State-owned. In this instance, collaboration by public and private interests – ODOT, Chesapeake Energy, and short-line operator Farmrail – can effectively “recycle” inactive assets for the good of the community, region and country. I am pleased to hear that the calculated ratio of benefits to cost should rank highly in your agency’s evaluation.

I hope that your reviewers can act favorably on Oklahoma’s Rolling Pipeline Delivery System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Schulz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mike" being more prominent than the last name "Schulz".

Senator Mike Schulz
Majority Floor Leader
District #38