

## KIAMICHI RAILROAD COMPANY, LLC

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October 14, 2011

The Honorable Ray H. LaHood Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

Re: US Highway 70 with Railroad Grade Separation (City of Valliant, McCurtain County, OK) TIGER III Grant Application from Oklahoma Department of Transportation

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the Kiamichi Railroad (KRR) please accept this letter to express our support for the US Highway 70 with Railroad Grade Separation project being submitted by the State of Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the 2011 National Infrastructure Investment program.

The US Highway 70 with Railroad Grade Separation project will involve eliminating an at-grade crossing of a rail line in Valliant, OK with an overpass, vastly improving the safety of the traveling public as well as the safety to railroad employees and railway equipment. In the rail industry safety is the most important element and reducing at-grade crossings enhances such safety for motorist, the public and freight traveling through McCurtain County.

Business, communities and the traveling public will benefit from such efforts to eliminate atgrade crossings with unobstructed access over railroads. The KRR in concert with the national railroad network system support such safety project in Oklahoma.

Respectfully,

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Patrick Kerr Director Government Affairs Kiamichi Railroad

