

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

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September 27, 2024

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Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

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Office of Proceedings
September 27, 2024
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Dear Ms. Brown:

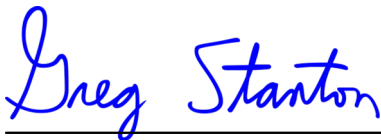
We write regarding the Surface Transportation Board's review of the Pecos Industrial Rail Access Train Extension (PIRATE) project, a proposed rail line that will provide vital transportation access to the existing Pecos Advanced Manufacturing Zone (PAMZ) in Mesa, Arizona.

The greater Phoenix metro area and Maricopa County are some of fastest-growing areas in the United States, and the PIRATE project is designed to meet the demands of this growing population. In fact, an economic analysis of the project notes it has the potential to create 20,594 new jobs, \$4.6 billion in wages, and more than \$19.7 billion in economic output by 2030.

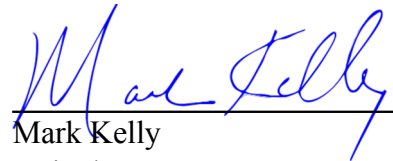
By incorporating rail as a transportation option for the PAMZ, businesses in the zone will have a valuable alternative to trucks to transport their products. This will open new markets for Arizona's domestic products while simultaneously reducing emissions from truck freight. In addition, the public will benefit from reduced road congestion as tens of thousands of trucks worth of freight annually could be converted to rail.

Due to the important and unique value this project offers, we respectfully request you prioritize decisions related to the PIRATE project to prevent any additional unnecessary delay.

Sincerely,



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



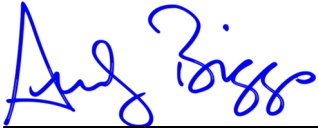
Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Juan Ciscomani
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Elijah Crane
Member of Congress



David Schweikert
Member of Congress



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