



F.H. PASCHEN, SNN NIELSEN & ASSOC., LLC
GENERAL CONTRACTORS

June 16, 2009

Joseph P. Clary
Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Public & Intermodal Transportation
J.R. Thompson Center, Suite 6-600
100 West Randolph
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Mr. Clary,

The CREATE program has already had a positive benefit for our organization because of the manner in which train tracks currently intersect with each other and with roads, and because the regional freight railroads generously defer to Amtrak and Metra in track utilization, it can now take up to 48 hours for freight trains to pass through the Chicago region.

Delays in rail freight, including at grade crossings, threaten the economic vitality of the region, make it harder for farmers to make a profit, lead to increased traffic congestion on roadways, generate unnecessary levels of air pollution, raise safety concerns, and adversely affect the reliability and speed of rail passenger service. With funding from the State of Illinois, the City of Chicago, the U.S. Department of Transportation, Metra, Amtrak, and the nation's major freight railroads, CREATE will alleviate these problems.

CREATE will not only be a positive impact in the future but can also help this troubled economy immediately.

F.H. Paschen supports State of Illinois Capital and Federal Funding to fulfill the \$1.3 billion needed to complete CREATE projects between 2009-2015. Please count us in for continued support of this most needed program.

Sincerely,

Mark Barkowski
Vice President

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