

VOLKSWAGEN of America, Inc.

Auburn Hills, MI. April, 3rd 2006

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm
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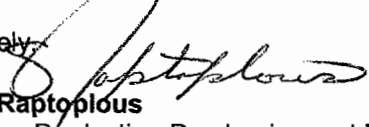
On behalf of Volkswagen, I have monitored the so-called BiNational Study and the efforts to improve the crossing between Detroit and Windsor. I want to applaud the Ambassador Bridge management team for the implementation of the prompt, efficient expansion of inspection facilities on both sides of the bridge, as those initiatives address the actual challenges for automotive shippers.

Much has been written about the need for additional capacity and new crossings proposed for this corridor. Unfortunately, the most fundamental impediment to efficient cross border transportation has little to do with the actual border, but rather the inefficient local roadway connections in Windsor. While multiple road alternatives exist on the Detroit side of the river, Windsor's access to the border has never been accomplished. In this regard, I commend the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for the commitment to improving mobility with the Ambassador Bridge Gateway that is currently underway. I urge you to call upon Canadian officials to match Michigan's investment in infrastructure connecting the current border to major highways.

In addition, my concern about the border is that long-range efforts like the BiNational Study create delays in the *immediate* necessary improvements at the border by other agencies beyond MDOT's influence. From my vantage point of Customs facilities, technology and resources at the Ambassador Bridge is of the utmost need. I am aware of the plan for an additional span at the Ambassador Bridge for the long-term business confidence issues regarding the border and the immediate plans for additional inspections. I support these initiatives and ask that you ensure the BiNational Studies do not become a scapegoat for progress in this regards.

Thank you for considering my views on these important border issues.

Sincerely,


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