



The Chemical Company

J.D. Purvis
General Manager

Senator Ray Basham
715 Farnum Building
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909

March 25, 2010

Dear Senator Basham:

I am writing on behalf of BASF Corporation to express the company's strong support for the building of the new border crossing recommended by the Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) Study.

BASF has more than 100 facilities located throughout the United States and Canada, with several in close proximity to both sides of the Detroit River. This transportation corridor is critical to the company's operations not only for trade and the transportation of goods but because many of our employees cross the border during their workday commute.

Michigan needs an additional crossing to handle future trade flows. According to the Ontario and Greater Detroit Chambers of Commerce, in the next 30 years, total US-Canadian trade by truck is expected to increase by 128 percent – levels our existing crossing system simply cannot support. However, it is not just the future growth that is a concern. Delays at the bridge are already costing BASF and other Michigan businesses that utilize this trade corridor. Additionally, the current bridge prohibits the transportation of some of our materials which requires that we transport using barges, adding time and cost to our business.

Perhaps the most compelling argument that could be made from the information provided by the Ontario and Greater Detroit Chambers of Commerce is that clearly 61% of the foreign sales from Michigan are made to Canada. This volume translates into a current value of \$13.5 Billion

The completion of the DRIC bridge is important to the future success of not only BASF and the countless other businesses reliant on the Detroit border crossings, but to Michigan's economy as well. I do, therefore, strongly urge your support.

Sincerely,

JD Purvis
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