

Dear Rep. Gonzales:

Thank you for your invitation for the Ambassador Bridge to appear again before your Subcommittee. As we discussed earlier today, it is not possible to adjust pre-existing schedules and prepare further testimony on May 5. In addition, it would be more beneficial and constructive for further testimony from the Ambassador Bridge after MDOT has formally appeared. I appreciate your understanding and your offer to have us back at a later date that is mutually convenient. In the mean time, we reiterate our invitation to all committee members to tour of the Ambassador Bridge & view the truly impressive Gateway Project construction that is ongoing. We are happy to receive your questions and will work to provide answers for the record your committee is creating.

You also mentioned today that you intended to submit correspondence from Canada into the record regarding our environmental assessment on the other side of the river. I assume you refer to the May 16, 2008 letter from the Honorable Lawrence Cannon (responding to your inquiry of May 1 just prior to your personal tour of the Ambassador Bridge). That carefully crafted letter, of course, speaks for itself but Minister Cannon is either unaware or unwilling to acknowledge that Canada Border Services Agency has been in possession of all requested information since March 2008 without a formal reply to us. Let me assure you that the Canadian customs issue will be put in a more accurate context in the near future, but it is unfair for Transport Canada to insinuate that they are somehow waiting on the Ambassador Bridge.

Again, thank you for the invitation to provide additional testimony. On behalf of my colleagues, we look forward to working with your committee to obtain accurate information regarding border issues.

**Mickey Blashfield
Governmental Relations
12225 Stephens
Warren, MI 48089
Mickey Blashfield
248.431.4865 cell**