



May 10, 2022

Ms. Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Letter of Support/Port of South Louisiana
Greenfield Louisiana Project
FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program**

Dear Administrator, Lessley,

Thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of our nation's ports and maritime activities. I am writing to express my support of the Port of South Louisiana's (POSL) FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant application, which is led by the largest tonnage port in the United States and in the Western Hemisphere.

The proposed *Port of South Louisiana Greenfield Louisiana Project* will construct a new export grain terminal system and dock for the purposes of increasing the port's capacity to export more grain products to end users throughout the world. The Greenfield Louisiana project is particularly timely given global market demand for U.S. grain is steadily increasing and is projected to reach approximately 145 million metric tons by 2031. This, coupled with the fact that Ukraine has become an important player in the international grain market, trailing only the United States in grain exports, means that recent disruptions in Ukrainian agriculture and planting will have ripple effects for years to come.

To meet growing demand, the Port of South Louisiana is uniquely positioned to support increased export of domestic grain products. The Port currently handles approximately 60% of all U.S. raw grain exports. The state-of-the-art equipment for the terminal and dock will be the first grain elevator constructed at the POSL in over 40 years, making it one of the safest and most environmentally friendly grain facilities in the region and in the U.S. When in operation, it is anticipated to move more than 11 million tons of agriculture products, primarily corn, wheat, and soybeans with some throughput from other locally grown specialty crops to the export market.

The POSL's Greenfield Louisiana project is in a rural, economically distressed Parish (county), as well as an opportunity zone. Benefits of the project include reduced congestion and environmental impacts while improvements to overall safety are expected, but also (1) increases POSL efficiency, reliability, and sustainability; (2) enhances domestic grain export to meet growing, international demand and competition; and (3) is anticipated to create up to 500 construction jobs and 100 permanent, high paying local jobs with benefits in

coordination with workforce development opportunities through POSL partnerships with local high schools, as well as community colleges.

The economic impact of the POSL on the economic development of the River Parishes and Southeast Louisiana cannot be overstated. A recent economic impact study found that the combination of the POSL companies' capital spending and operational spending supported 41 percent of all personal income and 63 percent of all jobs in the region. The port's continued growth and the vitality of the commerce it supports hinges, however, on improving and expanding its infrastructure.

The project will employ innovative financing through a public private partnership between the Board of Commissioners of the POSL and long-standing investment and development firms that have successfully participated in previous capital improvements at the port. Port Infrastructure Development Program grant funds will be leveraged with private investment to optimize project financing.

I hope that you will consider the far reaching local, regional, and national benefits of this project in considering this application. Thank you for your time and careful consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,



Chassity McComack, IOM
Executive Director



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

From the Office of Parish President Jaclyn Hotard

May 4, 2020

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of Transportation
United State Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Letter of Support/Port of South Louisiana
Greenfield Louisiana Project
FY 2020 BUILD Grant Program**

Dear Secretary Chao,

Thank you for your continued advocacy for our nation's transportation projects, including port infrastructure. I am writing on behalf of the Port of South Louisiana (POSL) to express my support for their FY 2020 BUILD Grant application.

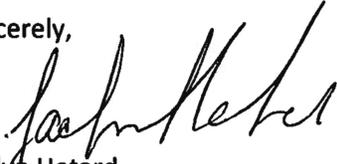
The Port of South Louisiana is North America's largest tonnage port, serving as a crucial economic driver for the region and the nation. This past year the Port logged 303 million short tons of total throughput. The economic impact of the POSL for our state and region cannot be overstated. A recent economic impact study found that the combination of the POSL companies' capital spending and operational spending supported 41 percent of all personal income and 63 percent of all jobs in the region. The Port's continued growth and the vitality of the commerce it supports, however, hinges on improving and expanding its infrastructure.

The proposed **Port of South Louisiana Greenfield Louisiana Project** will construct a new grain terminal system and dock for the purposes of facilitating the movement of more agricultural goods from producers (U. S. farmers) within the rural local and regional area to end users throughout the world. The proposed project is expected to significantly enhance export trade at the port, particularly to Asia, Central America, Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

The project will employ innovative financing through a public private partnership of the Board of Commissioners of the POSL and long-standing investment and development firms that have successfully participated in previous capital improvements at the port. BUILD grant funds will be leveraged with private investment to optimize project financing.

I hope that you will consider the far reaching regional and national benefits of this project in considering this proposal. Many thanks for your time and careful consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jaclyn Hotard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

Jaclyn Hotard
Parish President
St. John the Baptist Parish
1811 W Airline Hwy
LaPlace, LA 70068

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1806

May 11, 2022

Ms. Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Lessley:

I am pleased to offer my support for the proposal from the Port of South Louisiana, requesting funding through the FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program for the proposed "Greenfield Louisiana Project". The funds will be used to construct a new export grain terminal system and dock for the purposes of facilitating the movement of more agricultural goods.

The Port of South Louisiana is a vital artery to not only the region, but the country. It is North America's largest tonnage port. The Port of South Louisiana helps support farmers and producers from all over the United States as it enhances export trade to places like Asia, Central America, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. The proposed plan will also create numerous new jobs in a rural area that is considered part of an Opportunity Zone within an economically distressed parish (county). By expanding its infrastructure through the proposed plan, the Port of South Louisiana will be able to drastically improve throughput and provide one of the safest and most environmentally friendly grain facilities in the United States.

Thank you for your full consideration of Port of South Louisiana's application and your continued advocacy for important infrastructure developments. If you have any additional questions regarding this project, please contact my office at (225) 442-1731.

Sincerely,



Garret Graves
Member of Congress



10 PARISHES
Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard
St. Charles
St. James
St. John the Baptist
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington

May 11, 2022

Ms. Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Port of South Louisiana – Greenfield Louisiana Project
FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program

Dear Administrator Lessley,

Thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of our nation’s ports and maritime activities. On behalf of Greater New Orleans, Inc. (GNO, Inc.), the regional economic development organization for the ten parishes of Southeast Louisiana, I am writing to express support for the Port of South Louisiana’s (POSL) FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant application, led by the largest tonnage port in the United States and in the Western Hemisphere.

The proposed POSL Greenfield Louisiana Project will construct a new export grain terminal system and dock for the purposes of increasing the port’s capacity to export more grain products to end users throughout the world. The Greenfield Louisiana project is particularly timely given that global market demand for U.S. grain is steadily increasing, projected to reach approximately 145 million metric tons by 2031. Ukraine has become an important player in the international grain market, trailing only the United States in grain exports. Thus, disruptions in Ukrainian agriculture and planting will have ripple effects for years to come, and this project will work towards stabilizing the market, extending existing American strongholds, and fighting food insecurity around the world. Recently, GNO, Inc. has executed an operational partnership with the World Trade Center of New Orleans, the first World Trade Center in the world, to drive international economic development within the region, and we stand ready together to support projects with international implications like this.

To meet growing demand, the POSL is uniquely positioned to support increased export of domestic grain products. The POSL currently handles approximately 60 percent of all U.S. raw grain exports. The state-of-the-art equipment for the terminal and dock will be the first grain elevator constructed at the POSL in over 40 years, making it one of the safest and most environmentally friendly grain facilities in the region and in the United States. When in operation, it is anticipated to move more than 11 million tonnes of agriculture products – primarily corn, wheat, and soybeans with some throughput from other locally grown specialty crops – to the export market.

The POSL’s Greenfield Louisiana Project is located in a rural, economically distressed Parish, as well as in an opportunity zone. Benefits of the project include reduced congestion and environmental impacts, and improvements to overall safety are expected. Furthermore, the project (1) increases POSL efficiency, reliability, and sustainability; (2) enhances domestic grain export to meet growing, international demand and competition; and (3) is anticipated to create up to 500 construction jobs and 100 permanent, high paying local jobs with benefits in coordination with workforce development opportunities through POSL partnerships with local high schools, as well as community colleges.



10 PARISHES
Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard
St. Charles
St. James
St. John the Baptist
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington

The economic impact of the POSL on the economic development of Southeast Louisiana, and most acutely on the River Parishes, cannot be overstated. A recent economic impact study found that the combination of the POSL companies' capital spending and operational spending supported 41 percent of all personal income and 63 percent of all jobs in the sub-region. The port's continued growth and the vitality of the commerce it supports hinges, however, on improving and expanding its infrastructure.

The project will employ innovative financing through a public-private partnership between the Board of Commissioners of the POSL and long-standing investment and development firms that have successfully participated in previous capital improvements at the port. Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant funds will be leveraged, and matched many times over, with private investment to optimize project financing.

In recognition of the far-reaching local, regional, national, and international benefits of this project, we thank you for your time and careful consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,

Michael Hecht
President & CEO



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER



May 10, 2022

Ms. Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Letter of Support/Port of South Louisiana
Greenfield Louisiana Project
FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program**

Dear Administrator Lessley:

Thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of our nation's ports and maritime activities. I am writing to express my support of the Port of South Louisiana's (POSL) FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant application, which is led by the largest tonnage port in the United States and in the Western Hemisphere.

The proposed **Port of South Louisiana Greenfield Louisiana Project** will construct a new export grain terminal system and dock for the purposes of increasing the port's capacity to export more grain products to end users throughout the world. The Greenfield Louisiana project is particularly timely given global market demand for U.S. grain is steadily increasing and is projected to reach approximately 145 million metric tons by 2031. This, coupled with the fact that Ukraine has become an important player in the international grain market, trailing only the United States in grain exports, means that recent disruptions in Ukrainian agriculture and planting will have ripple effects for years to come.

To meet growing demand, the POSL is uniquely positioned to support increased export of domestic grain products. The port currently handles approximately 60% of all U.S. raw grain exports. The state-of-the-art equipment for the terminal and dock will be the first grain elevator constructed at the POSL in over 40 years, making it one of the safest and most environmentally friendly grain facilities in the region and in the U.S. When in operation, it is anticipated to move more than 11 million tonnes of agriculture products, primarily corn, wheat, and soybeans with some throughput from other locally grown specialty crops to the export market.

The POSL's Greenfield Louisiana project is in a rural, economically distressed parish (county), as well as an opportunity zone. Benefits of the project include reduced congestion and environmental impacts, expected improvements to overall safety, and also (1) increasing POSL efficiency, reliability, and sustainability; (2) enhancing domestic grain export to meet growing, international demand, and competition; and (3) is anticipated to create up to 500 construction jobs and 100 permanent, high paying local jobs with benefits in coordination with workforce development opportunities through POSL partnerships with local high schools, as well as community colleges.

The economic impact of the POSL on the economic development of the River Parishes and Southeast Louisiana cannot be overstated. A recent economic impact study found that the combination of the POSL companies' capital spending and operational spending supported 41 percent of all personal income and 63 percent of all jobs in the region. The port's continued growth and the vitality of the commerce it supports hinges, however, on improving and expanding its infrastructure.

The project will employ innovative financing through a public private partnership between the Board of Commissioners of the POSL and long-standing investment and development firms that have successfully participated in previous capital improvements at the port. Port Infrastructure Development Program grant funds will be leveraged with private investment to optimize project financing.

I hope that you will consider the far reaching local, regional, and national benefits of this project in considering this application. Thank you for your time and careful consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,



Mike Strain, DVM
Commissioner

BILL CASSIDY, M.D.
LOUISIANA

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
SUITE SH-520
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5824

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
FINANCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

May 3, 2022

Ms. Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration
West Building 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Ms. Lessley:

It has recently come to my attention that the Port of South Louisiana is applying for funding from the Port Infrastructure Development grant program. They are requesting \$25 million for their Greenfield Louisiana Project. They anticipate providing a match of \$454,121,620 for the entire project.

The Port of South Louisiana plans to use the funds towards the construction of a \$77.5 million dock located in an Opportunity Zone in St. John the Baptist Parish. The dock is part of a overall larger project which also includes a new export grain terminal system. The project is expected to create over 500 construction jobs and over 100 full-time permanent jobs. When the entire project is completed, the port will be able to accommodate two post-Panamax bulk carriers and transfer loads at a combined rate of 480,000 bushels per hour. With the port currently handling 60 percent of US grain exports and the market rapidly expanding, the port believes this project is necessary to meet future export demands for Midwest grains.

I appreciate MARAD's consideration of this application. I ask that you please keep my office informed on the progress of this proposal as well as when a final decision has been made regarding this grant. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Eby in my Baton Rouge Office at (225) 929-7711.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator

BC/ME

United States Senate

April 11, 2022

Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
Maritime Administrator
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: FY 2022 U. S. DOT Port Infrastructure Development Program, Port of South Louisiana (POSL) – Greenfield Louisiana Project

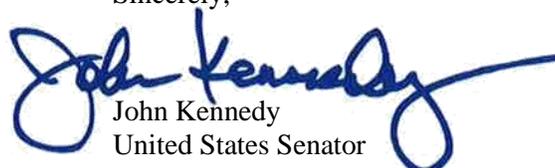
Dear Acting Administrator Lessley:

I am writing to you today to bring to your attention the application submitted by the Port of South Louisiana (POSL) for the Greenfield Louisiana Project. POSL is requesting \$25 million in RAISE grant funding to construct a new grain terminal system and dock for the purposes of facilitating the movement of more agricultural goods from our local and regional farmers and producers to end users throughout the world. POSL is leveraging 68% in public and private investments towards this project.

POSL is North America's largest tonnage port, serving as a crucial economic driver for the region and the nation as it handles 60% of all U.S. raw grain exports. A recent economic impact study found that the combination of the POSL companies' capital spending and operational spending supported 41 percent of all personal income and 63 percent of all jobs in the parish. The proposed project could provide over 500 construction jobs and 100 permanent jobs with competitive salaries and benefits to an economically distressed region, while the equipment for the terminal could make it one of the safest and most environmentally friendly grain facilities in the region and the country.

I respectfully ask that you give your careful attention and consideration to this proposal. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
United States Senator



ST. CHARLES PARISH

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

MATTHEW JEWELL
PARISH PRESIDENT

JENNIFER CRISP
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

May 2, 2022

Ms. Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Letter of Support/Port of South Louisiana
Greenfield Louisiana Project
FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program**

Dear Administrator Lessley,

Thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of our nation's ports and maritime activities. I am writing to express my support of the Port of South Louisiana's (POSL) FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant application, which is led by the largest tonnage port in the United States and in the Western Hemisphere.

The proposed ***Port of South Louisiana Greenfield Louisiana Project*** will construct a new export grain terminal system and dock for the purposes of increasing the port's capacity to export more grain products to end users throughout the world. The Greenfield Louisiana project is particularly timely given global market demand for U.S. grain is steadily increasing and is projected to reach approximately 145 million metric tons by 2031. This, coupled with the fact that Ukraine has become an important player in the international grain market, trailing only the United States in grain exports, means that recent disruptions in Ukrainian agriculture and planting will have ripple effects for years to come.

To meet growing demand, the Port of South Louisiana is uniquely positioned to support increased export of domestic grain products. The Port currently handles approximately 60% of all U.S. raw grain exports. The state-of-the-art equipment for the terminal and dock will be the first grain elevator constructed at the POSL in over 40 years, making it one of the safest and most environmentally friendly grain facilities in the region and in the U.S. When in operation, it is anticipated to move more than 11 million tonnes of agriculture products, primarily corn, wheat, and soybeans with some throughput from other locally grown specialty crops to the export market.

The POSL's Greenfield Louisiana project is in a rural, economically distressed Parish (county), as well as an opportunity zone. Benefits of the project include reduced congestion and environmental

impacts while improvements to overall safety are expected, but also (1) increases POSL efficiency, reliability, and sustainability; (2) enhances domestic grain export to meet growing, international demand and competition; and (3) is anticipated to create up to 500 construction jobs and 100 permanent, high paying local jobs with benefits in coordination with workforce development opportunities through POSL partnerships with local high schools, as well as community colleges.

The economic impact of the POSL on the economic development of the River Parishes and Southeast Louisiana cannot be overstated. A recent economic impact study found that the combination of the POSL companies' capital spending and operational spending supported 41 percent of all personal income and 63 percent of all jobs in the region. The port's continued growth and the vitality of the commerce it supports hinges, however, on improving and expanding its infrastructure.

The project will employ innovative financing through a public private partnership between the Board of Commissioners of the POSL and long-standing investment and development firms that have successfully participated in previous capital improvements at the port. Port Infrastructure Development Program grant funds will be leveraged with private investment to optimize project financing.

I hope that you will consider the far reaching local, regional, and national benefits of this project in considering this application. Thank you for your time and careful consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,



Matthew Jewell
Parish President



Ms. Lucinda Lessley
Acting Administrator
United States Department of Transportation Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC. 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the Port of South Louisiana
Greenfield Louisiana Project
FY 2022 Port Infrastructure Development Program

Dear Administrator Lessley,

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I hope that you will consider the far reaching local, regional, and national benefits of this project in considering this application. Thank you for your time and careful consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,

Paul Aucoin
Chairman
World Trade Center New Orleans

CC: Ed Webb, CEO