



Caterpillar Inc.  
954 Hwy 42 East  
Clayton, NC 27527

November 17, 2017

Secretary James H. Trogdon III  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
1501 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1501

Dear Secretary Trogdon:

On behalf of Caterpillar Inc., I would like to express our support of the proposed I-95/US 70 Innovative Technology and Rural Mobility Corridor Improvements. We believe this investment in the infrastructure of Eastern North Carolina will have a long-lasting, positive impact on the economy, mobility, and safety of the region.

The Clayton, North Carolina facility is part of the Building Construction Products (BCP) Division of Caterpillar Inc. BCP is a global division responsible for designing, manufacturing and supporting some of Caterpillar's versatile construction machines and attachments. BCP's product industries include commercial construction, residential construction, specialty trades, landscaping and agriculture.

We believe the I-95 section of the project will increase safety, and bring key portions up to current design standards, add capacity and increase the flow of traffic on this vital national artery in North Carolina. The US 70 (future I-42) portion of the project completes the last two remaining gaps between I-40 and Havelock, NC and will bring the entire stretch of road up to freeway standards. We believe these improvements will maintain and enhance connections between the Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, Northeast, military installations, and international ports on the eastern seaboard.

The plan calls for the installation of conduit and fiber backbone within the project's right of way along the entire I-95 corridor and portions of US 70. We believe this infrastructure improvement will provide capacity for current and future needs, allow for modernization of public safety centers, and provide the environment for connected and autonomous vehicles.

For these reasons, we support the I-95/US 70 Innovative Technology and Rural Mobility Corridor Improvements project and the North Carolina Department of Transportation's application for federal INFRA Grant funding to accelerate its construction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vic Baluis".

Vic Baluis

Facility Manager | Clayton, NC  
Building Construction Products  
Caterpillar Inc.