



**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

October 25, 2011

Newington Station

Public Service Company of New Hampshire
165 Gosling Road
Newington, NH 03801
(603) 431-4234

The Northeast Utilities System

The Honorable Raymond L. LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

Please accept this letter of support for the TIGER III application for Pease Development Authority Division of Ports and Harbors "**MAIN WHARF EXPANSION**".

The project would improve the marine wharf facility at the Division of Ports and Harbors Market Street Marine Terminal in Portsmouth which is the only general cargo, general use, public access facility on the Piscataqua River and is an important support facility on the river. Operational deficiencies at the terminal wharf currently limit the use of the facility to provide full service for all bulk carriers and other ships calling on the port and for other potential transport vessels considering the Market Street Marine Terminal for their berth. Critical repairs are needed to the wharf including replacement of the access bridges over which cargo is carried. One of the approach bridges has already failed and been closed off. Extending the length of the wharf is also essential because as the size of ocean going vessels grows, so must the shore-side infrastructures grow in order to accept these larger vessels.

The Market Street Marine Terminal supports all marine related activities on the Piscataqua River and the Main Wharf Rehabilitation and Expansion is intended to improve services and expand business opportunities for New Hampshire businesses that may require access to the sea for transport of goods and merchandise. Ships conducting business at the other deep water terminals depend on the Market Street Marine Terminal to provide a platform to support and service vessels that cannot otherwise be serviced at other terminals.

Public Service of New Hampshire, New Hampshire's largest Electric Utility, has relied upon the Market Street Marine Terminal to support activities and vessels directly related to our business. We have received large components from offshore manufactures at this facility. Most recently we took delivery of a 280 ton coal ship unloader at the Terminal. Additionally, during the coal ship unloader project the Market Street Terminal also provided a laydown area and an assembly area for the new unloader as well as an area for stockpiling and the loading of a barge with the components of the original 250 ton ship unloader. The original unloader was then transported directly to a facility in the Boston area for recycling. The rehabilitation and expansion of the Market Street Marine Terminal would allow for the continued use of this facility which is an important component to the continued economic growth and advancement of industries in the State of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,


Donald E. Gray
Station Manager

CC: Geno Marconi
William Smagula
Richard Despina