

July 5, 2019

Secretary Chao
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: 2019 Build Grant Rural Application Neilsville Bridge Replacement

Dear Secretary Elaine Chao,

TDS Fertilizer in Fertile, Minnesota is expressing its full support of the application submitted by Polk County, Minnesota, and Traill County, North Dakota, on behalf of the Multi-State Regional Connectivity Project for a FY 2019 BUILD Grant.

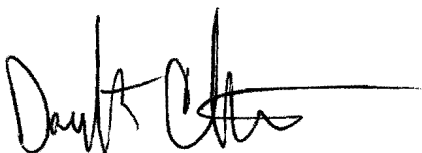
As a trucking business, we know the importance of reliable infrastructure and how the most direct route can save money for farms and ranches.

Local business has suffered in both Minnesota and North Dakota due to the closure of the Nielsville Bridge in 2015 due to irreparable structural deficiencies. Since the bridge closed, economic activity in the region has sharply declined.

If Polk County's 2019 BUILD Grant application is successful, federal funds would be leveraged with non-federal matching funds to replace Nielsville Bridge and support our local agribusiness.

Please give careful review of this application and how it will help support local agriculture, the economic backbone of our region.

Sincerely,



Dwight Christian – President

TDS Fertilizer, Inc.



Stuart Christian – Vice President