



December 9, 2009

Secretary Ray Lahood, Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Lahood:

We the undersigned <u>216 Pennsylvania</u> companies, employing more than <u>8,700 workers</u> in <u>25 counties</u>, urge you to <u>oppose the tolling of Interstate 80</u>.

As Pennsylvania employers, we strongly urge you to **oppose the tolling of Interstate 80**, or any other effort that forces the businesses along one interstate to pay for the infrastructure and mass transit desires of the rest of the Commonwealth. Making I-80 a toll road threatens our economic competitiveness, forcing many employers to make tough budget decisions during a recession that has hit Pennsylvania hard. At a time when the state's unemployment rate already is nearing 9 percent, this proposal could mean more lost jobs as businesses downsize to pay for the exorbitant tolls placed on tractor-trailers.

While the business community is happy to pay its fair share, the money garnered from tolling I-80 would not benefit the communities and businesses that use the road most. The revenues would be dispersed across the state to fund mass transit in city centers, as well as other transportation initiatives. Truckers, commuters and other motorists already are paying approximately \$50 million more than what is currently spent maintaining the interstate. Instead of asking for more revenue, the legislature and governor should look to cut waste and limit spending within the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and other areas of state government.

The Federal Highway Administration twice has rejected the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's application, most recently on September 11, 2008. This agency – investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation upon allegations of a pay-to-play scandal and mismanagement of government money – should not be entrusted with additional responsibility.

If passed, this proposal also could risk the lives of residents in the communities surrounding I-80 as tractor-trailers and commuters avoid the interstate to use second-hand roads not built for interstate traffic. It would force counties and municipalities who already are cash strapped to put more money toward resurfacing these roads.

This proposal will not be the "magic pill" to cure Pennsylvania's ailing infrastructure. More time should be devoted to properly developing and vetting infrastructure legislation and asking for input, not hurriedly passing bad policy that could do more harm than good. We respectfully urge you to publicly **oppose** the tolling of I-80. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

4 Ways Sales and Service A Fitting Design

Accu-Chek Machining

Allegheny Tool & Supply

Animal Hospital of Punxsutawney

Animal Hospital of Waterford

Arete QIS LLC

Arvite Technologies, Inc.

Atlas Technologies

Automated Customized Storage Solutions

Axeman-Anderson

B & T Fleet Supply

B.F. Fields Moving & Storage

Barber Trucking

Bastian Tire Sales

Berenfield Containers, Inc.

Bert Klapec, Inc.

Bertram Tool & Machine Co. Inc.

Bessemer Supply, Inc.

BFG Manufacturing Services

Bisett Building Center

Brookside Assisted Living

Brown's Masonry & Concrete

Bruce Hunt Trucking, Inc.

Buckeye Hone Company

Butler Farm Market, Inc.

Butler Floor & Carpet

C & J Industries

C.R. Campbell Trucking

C.S.I. Construction Services

Calibration Services, Inc.

Faulkner's Country Market

Klapec Express

Canteen Vending Co.

Ferguson Perforating & Wire

Klapec Trucking Co.

Knox Auto Supply Inc.

Charles P. Leach Agency, Inc.

Fire Force, Inc.

Kuhn Tool & Die Co.

Charles Tool & Supply Inc. Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce L-3 Communications Electron Devices

Loesel-Schaaf Insurance Agency, Inc.

CJ's Home Décor & Fireplaces G & M Bandsaw Inc. Lander Development

G.W. Becker Inc.

Clair Boring Painting Services

Clair J. Ferry Inc.

Clapper Insurance

Clarion Cabinetry

Gajda Trucking

George J. Howe Co.

Clarion Cabinetry

Grosick Trucking LLC

Lynn, King & Schreffler

M.K. and Associates, Inc.

Clarion Students Association Grossman Trucking Magill Podiatry
Clinch-tite Corp Hadley Seed Farm Maple Donuts

Concrete Resurfacing & Staining Hajduk & Kerna Associates McClellan Trucking Inc.

Core Compliance Group Inc. Hannahstown Mutual McInnes Rolled Rings

Corle Benn Auto Parts Inc. Hapeman Electronics, Inc. Mealy Construction

Corry Auto Dealers Exc. Hempfield Township Metaltech, Inc.

Coyle, Barton, Jones Attorneys at Law Hempfield Township Police Mikron Valve

Crockett Financial Services Hepburnia Coal Company Miller Welding & Machine Co.

D. Mark Livezey, DDS Hermance Machine Company Moses Jewelers

D.E.M. Surveying Hess & Fisher Engineers Neiswonger Construction Inc.

Data Papers, Inc. Hopkins Hertzel LLP New Bethlehem Burial Service

Davis Cycle Sales Industrial Machine Designs, Inc.

New Castle Neurology

Deist Industries, Inc. Integrated North Star Aggregates, Inc.

Diesel Injection Iorio Beauty Supply Inc. Northwest Lawn & Landscaping

Dressler Construction, LLC J. R. Resources Northwest PA Court Reporters

Dunagin Dermatology James O. Buehler Logging Oakland Products

Duran Transfer Inc. Jamestown Coating Technologies Open Flow Gas Supply Corp.

E. M. Brown, Inc. Jane's Stromboli, Inc. Orthodox Monastery

E.A. Mundkowsky Finishing Janitors Supply Company, Inc. Output Sales Corporation

Elco Sintered Alloys Jefferson County Development Council Overhead Door Co. of Franklin

Emporium Secondaries, Inc.

Jersey Shore Steel

Paulhamus Litho, Inc.

Energy Link, Inc.

Joe B's Carpets

Penn Centre Logistics

Erie Bronze & Aluminum Joe Klapec & Son, Inc. Phoenix Data, Inc.

Erie DriveTrain, Inc. John A. Madden Trucking Physician's Mobile X-Ray, Inc.

Erie Industrial Trucks, Inc. John E. Balmer, DO Piney Creek Limited Partnership

Erie Mill & Press Joseph R. Meyn DMD PMF Industries, Inc.

Erie Molded Plastics Kapp Alloy & Wire Potratz Floral Shop & Greenhouse

Eriez Manufacturing co. Ken-Fab & Weld Inc. Preferred Enterprises, Inc. Eureka Electrical Products, Inc. Kennedy Diversified Inc. Prince of Peace Center Fairview Evergreen Nurseries Kevco Labs Printing Concepts Inc.

Farmers Mutual Fire Ins. of Marble Pa. Keystone Friction Hinge Co. Pro America Premium Tools

PRS Transit

Quality Compacted Metals Radiant Steel Products, Inc.

Ralph S. Alberts Co., Inc.

Randy & Bob's Auto Body II

Ray Showman Jr. Excavating Inc.

Realco Diversified

Remmey - The Pattlet Co. Reynolds Building Systems

Ridg-U-Rak

Riethmiller Lumber Manufacturing

Robert F. Savolskis CPA Rogers Brothers Corporation

Rog's Inc.

Rorabaugh Lumber Co. Saegertown Beverages

Salt Painting, Inc.

Scobell Company, Inc.

Sepco-PA

Sharon Packing Co. Inc.

Singers Auto Service

Smith Provision Co.

Universal Well Services

Valley Can, Inc.

Valley Machine & Tool co.

VEC Technology LLC

Vic's Pub

Victoria House

W.L. Roenigk Inc.

Walker Chevrolet, Inc.

Waroquier Coal Inc.

Waterproofing Specialties, Inc.

Wayne Township Landfill

Weislogel's Inc.

Western PA Steel Fabricating

William J. Brown Trucking

William J. Herbert DO

Williams Sanitation Services

Williamsport Dies & C uts

Williamsport Foundry Co.

Willis E. Sommers Co

Wintronics Inc.

Wolfcreek Books, Inc.

Woodhyrst, Inc.

Smock and Schonthaler Ind. Insulation Sales

Snap-tite, Inc.

Specialty Precast Company, Inc.

Sports Obsession

Staiman Recycling Corp.

Steeple Furniture

Sterilizer Refurbishing

Strobel Machine

Struxures, LLC

Suscon, Inc.

Susquehanna Fire Equipment Co.

Tech Molded Plastics, Inc.

Testing Solutions

The Robson Co., Inc.

The Warren Co.

Toby Food Group

Tom's Sales & Service

TPS - Thermal Product Solutions

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