



**Xcel Energy**

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

RE: Letter of Support from Xcel Energy for the 2021 BUILD Rural Discretionary Grant: La Crosse County French Island Freight and Mobility Improvements

Dear Ms. Chao:

I am writing this letter to express our support for the La Crosse County, Wisconsin request for a 2021 US DOT BUILD Discretionary grant to improve local, regional and national freight and mobility access on French Island, La Crosse County, Wisconsin. The 2021 BUILD grant will provide La Crosse County with the ability to improve the efficient movement of goods and services through improved access to regional facilities including rail, harbor, air and interstate. La Crosse County has confirmed local funding partnerships in support of this project, including the City of La Crosse, WisDOT, Harbor Commission, La Crosse Regional Airport and private businesses. The project will result in improved access to reliable, safe and affordable transportation in a rural area.

Construction of the La Crosse French Island Freight and Mobility Improvements will greatly benefit our many utility customers in this area. In addition, our waste to energy generating plant at the south side of French Island will benefit from the transportation improvements in this area. I am writing to express my support for this request.

Please give this 2021 BUILD Discretionary Grant proposal your full attention and if I can answer anything further please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael J. Herro'.

Michael Herro