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September 4, 2025

The Honorable Sean P. Duffy

Secretary of Transportation

U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington D.C. 20590

RE: Tioga Marine Terminal Liquid Bulk Berth Enhancement Project

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's (PhilaPort) application for \$27.5 million in funding from the FY25 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) discretionary grant program.

The Tioga Marine Terminal Liquid Bulk Berth Enhancement Project aims to undertake significant structural upgrades to Berth 1 at the Tioga Liquid Bulk Terminal. These upgrades include the installation of new steel piles to support both lateral and vertical loads, enabling the 730-foot berth to accommodate heavier equipment and enhance operational flexibility. This will ensure the continued support of existing liquid bulk barge services and the accommodation of conventional breakbulk vessels, with the wharf expected to service vessels up to approximately 470 feet in length overall (LOA).

This project is crucial for PhilaPort's tenant, Kinder Morgan, which operates a tank farm connected to the berth. In addition, the enhancements will enable more versatile berthing configurations and improve the efficiency of an existing 90,000 sq/ft on-dock warehouse. Once completed, the enhanced berth will also allow neighboring PhilaPort tenant Delaware River Stevedores to directly discharge breakbulk vessels to the Tioga 2 warehouse thus reducing diesel emissions from cargo moving equipment transiting from the terminal's northern berths.

The Tioga Marine Terminal Liquid Bulk Berth Enhancement Project is expected to catalyze economic development, attract additional private investment, and accelerate the movement of goods and commerce throughout the region. Furthermore, it will enhance the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the local and regional transportation network.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

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In service,

Joseph C. Hohenstein

PA General Assembly – 177<sup>th</sup> District