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## AMERICAN PULSES LIMITED

October 18, 2011

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

RE: Northern Express Transportation Authority's TIGER III Grant Application

Dear Mr. Secretary,

This letter conveys American Pulses, Ltd.'s support for the Port of Northern Montana Multimodal Hub Center project. Requested funds will be combined with over \$7.7 million in non-federal funding and used to construct Montana's first multimodal facility to facilitate the export of food commodities.

American Pulses processes raw pulse crops into edible pulse products. We purchase unprocessed raw pulses (including lentils, chick peas and yellow peas) from Montana growers and clean, dehusk, polish and split products per customer specifications.

Constructing a multimodal rail facility in Shelby, Montana would support our mission to become a world leader in pulse crop processing and distribution. It would ensure the safe, efficient and secure storage and movement of our product in a global containerized intermodal freight transport system.

Montana is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest State in the nation yet it does not have the ability to ship or receive containerized cargos for import or export due to the lack of a multimodal facility capable of accepting and delivering unit trains of containers. This project will construct Montana's first multimodal facility to enable the export of food commodities and other goods--a nationally and regionally significant commercial and accomplishment.

As funding applications are evaluated, I would hope that you would carefully consider the merits of this project.

Sincerely,

American Pulses, Ltd.  
Hingham, MT