

KEVIN CRAMER

NORTH DAKOTA

WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE:
1032 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-2611

BISMARCK OFFICE:
220 EAST ROSSER AVENUE
SUITE 328
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501
701-224-0355



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

FARGO OFFICE:
3217 FIECHTNER DRIVE, SUITE D
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58103
701-356-2216

MINOT OFFICE:
315 MAIN STREET SOUTH, SUITE 203
MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA 58701
701-839-0255

GRAND FORKS OFFICE:
CENTER FOR INNOVATION FOUNDATION BUILDING
4200 JAMES RAY DRIVE, OFFICE 600
GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA 58202
701-738-4880

April 17, 2018

Admiral Paul F. Zukunft

U.S. Coast Guard

2703 Martin Luther King Jr., Ave. SE

Washington, DC 2051593-7000

Dear Admiral Zukunft:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Sandpoint Junction Connector Project. The project will provide major economic benefits to the nation's northern tier, including my state of North Dakota.

The project provides significant capacity to BNSF's Great Northern Corridor, which is the key rail link for North Dakota's commodities and Amtrak to the Pacific Northwest. BNSF has been systematically adding necessary capacity to the Great Northern Corridor as needed, making significant investment in North Dakota and all the states served by the Corridor. A network is only as efficient as its chokepoints, and the Sandpoint Junction Connector Project will provide an important expansion of the network to allow for safer, more efficient use of the entire Corridor.

This connector project will help ensure that BNSF's previous investments, in my state and elsewhere, are not deleveraged because of unresolved train congestion at Sandpoint. I encourage your most thorough review of this project, followed by a timely construction schedule so this project can benefit commerce across the Great Northern Corridor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Cramer".

Kevin Cramer

Member of Congress

cc: Lieutenant General Todd Semonite, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Coast Guard, District 13 Bridge Administration Office

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District