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October 5, 2017

Mr. David Bernhardt, PE, Commissioner
Maine Department of Transportation
16 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0016



Dear Mr. Bernhardt:

We are writing in support of the State's INFRA grant application for the I395 to Route 9 Connector Project. We are a distributor of industrial, safety, and construction supplies headquartered in Bangor, Maine. We serve customers along Route 9 from Eddington to Baileyville. Our employees are often on this road for sales and service travel. We also have employees traveling this road to support our inventory services. We also utilize a number of package and freight service companies that travel Route 9 supporting our business. The Woodland Pulp/St. Croix Tissue plant in Baileyville is one of the few vibrant paper mills in the state. The reasons for our support are as follows:

1. The I395 connector will shorten the distance traveled by each of our people on the road.
2. More importantly, the connector will save each of our people time on the road.
3. The connector provides for a safer, and less stressful, means of travel for both our people and all others on the connector.
4. The connector provides for safer driving for all those using the local roads currently carrying this through traffic.
5. The INFRA grant will reduce the scarcity of funds for other important transportation projects in the state and help avoid delays to other safety and productivity improving projects.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support. We look forward to the funding of this highly desirable project.

Thank you and best regards,

N. H. Bragg and Sons

Jon Eames
Jon Eames

President