

September 28, 2011

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the CEO Council for Growth, I write to you to express our strong support for deepening the Delaware River main channel and ask that you provide full federal funding for this critical project.


The CEO Council for Growth, a group of business executives (see attached list) committed to growth and prosperity in the 11-county Greater Philadelphia region, provides focus and leadership to improve the region's transportation infrastructure, assure a steady and talented supply of quality workers and foster entrepreneurial growth. As such, we fully support the dredging of the channel and believe it will allow all Delaware River port facilities to competitively attract the emerging class of larger cargo vessels allowing our region to remain globally competitive.

The ports of the Delaware River are comprised of the Port of Philadelphia (PA), Port of Wilmington (DE), Paulsboro Terminal (NJ) and 20 other marine cargo facilities and are one of the Greater Philadelphia region's most important economic engines. Combined, these facilities create \$1.1 billion in business revenue annually, support approximately 12,400 direct and indirect jobs and 53,000 related jobs within the region and nation and rank 5th among U.S. ports. Deepening the channel is essential to preserving and growing these jobs.

All other East coast ports have deepened their channels to at least 42 feet in anticipation of the growth in commercial shipping activities and size of ships generated by the expansion of the Panama Canal, with three ports having at least a 50 foot depth. Without the ability to accommodate larger vessels in the Greater Philadelphia region, container lines have threatened to move their business elsewhere and the potential for new jobs and business resulting from the Panama Canal widening will greatly diminish. This would be a tremendous economic setback for this region and the market of more than 46 million people who reside within 200 miles of our ports.

Your commitment to funding the Delaware River Channel Deepening will help guarantee that the Greater Philadelphia region remains a vital economic competitor in the global marketplace. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Wonderling
Chairman
CEO Council for Growth

Cc: The Vice President
Major General Merdith W.B. Temple, Acting Chief of Engineers and Acting
Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Greater Philadelphia Congressional Delegation
Stephen S. Aichele, General Counsel, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Adam Gattuso, Office of the Governor, Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania

As of September 14, 2011

Adel Al-Saleh
IMS Health

Steven M. Altschuler, M.D.
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

David S. Antzis, Esquire
Saul Ewing LLP

Robert L. Barchi, M.D., Ph.D.
Thomas Jefferson University

Gregory S. Bentley
Bentley Systems, Incorporated

Christopher L. Bruner
Ernst & Young LLP

J. Kevin Buchi
Cephalon, Inc.

Thomas A. Caramanico, P.E.
McCormick Taylor, Inc.

Michael C. Carbone
TD Bank

David L. Cohen, Esquire
Comcast Corporation

J. Edward Coleman
Unisys Corporation

J. Gordon Cooney, Jr., Esquire
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Rick M. Deadwyler (ex officio)
DuPont

Nicholas DeBenedictis
Aqua America, Inc.

Gerard A. Fasano
Lockheed Martin Corporation

Daniel K. Fitzpatrick, CFA
Citizens Bank – PA / NJ / DE / NY

John A. Fry
Drexel University

Gale Y. Given
Verizon Pennsylvania Inc.

Lon R. Greenberg
UGI Corporation

Amy Gutmann, Ph.D.
University of Pennsylvania

William P. Hankowsky
Liberty Property Trust

Dr. Patrick T. Harker
University of Delaware

Dr. Ann Weaver Hart
Temple University

Daniel J. Hilferty
Independence Blue Cross

Thomas J. Holt, Jr.
Holt Logistics Corp.

Russel E. Kaufman, M.D.
The Wistar Institute

Mark A. Kleinschmidt (ex officio)
New Castle County Chamber of Commerce

Hugh C. Long, II
Wells Fargo

P. Edward Lovelidge
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Thomas J. Lynch
TE Connectivity

Jerry J. Maginnis
KPMG LLP

William J. Marrasso
WHYY, Inc.

Gary Marshall
Aberdeen Asset Management Inc.

Joseph W. "Chip" Marshall, III
Stevens & Lee / Griffin Financial Group

Ashley A. McEvoy
Ethicon, Inc.

F. William McNabb, III
Vanguard

Richard P. Miller
Virtua

J. William Mills
PNC

Thomas G. Morr
Select Greater Philadelphia

Jeremy Nowak
William Penn Foundation

Denis P. O'Brien
PECO Energy

W. Douglas Parker
US Airways

Jerome Peribere
The Dow Chemical Company

Daniel J. Phelan
GlaxoSmithKline

Dr. Wendell E. Pritchett
Rutgers University – Camden

Alfred W. Putnam, Jr.
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

Michael A. Rashid
The AmeriHealth Mercy Family of Companies

Bruce Rubin
Braskem America

William R. Sasso, Esquire
Stradley Ronon

Sue Schick
UnitedHealthcare of Pennsylvania

Jeffry Sterba
American Water

Gerard H. Sweeney
Brandywine Realty Trust

Mark Timney
Merck & Co., Inc.

Tara L. Weiner
Deloitte LLP

Craig E. White
Philadelphia Gas Works

Barton J. Winokur, Esquire
Dechert LLP

Robert C. Wonderling
Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce

AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP

The CEO Council is a group of key business executives committed to growth and prosperity in the 11-county region across northern Delaware, southern New Jersey and southeastern Pennsylvania. Through high-impact initiatives designed to stimulate jobs and new business opportunities the CEO Council pursues a focused, consistent and sustained effort to expand the Greater Philadelphia region. The CEO Council provides leadership to advocate for the improvement of the region's transportation infrastructure, assure a steady and talented supply of quality workers, enhance the culture of entrepreneurship and accelerate commercialization. The CEO Council is an affiliate of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce and other area chambers.