August 4, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the more than 200 organizations representing rural communities, U.S. agricultural producers, rural businesses and rural families that comprise the Rebuild Rural Coalition, we write in support of the Presidential Advisory Council on Infrastructure (Council) and ask that you include in the Council representatives with specific experience and expertise in rural infrastructure. Your effort to make investment in our nation’s infrastructure a priority is critically important and we look forward to working with you to help reinvigorate rural America.

It is imperative that this Council study and make recommendations regarding the appropriate level of federal and private-sector investment in infrastructure projects impacting both urban and rural America including surface transportation, aviation, locks and dams, ports and waterways, agricultural research, broadband, energy, healthcare, housing and water — all critical areas of focus our Coalition has raised with the National Economic Council and on Capitol Hill — throughout this year.

In order to ensure the Council’s report is as comprehensive as possible, we urge you to consider the voices of our rural communities. Our nation’s rural towns, cities and counties face unique challenges and the Coalition strongly believes the Council will benefit from a diverse perspective. Including representatives from rural America in the Council will help to ensure that the infrastructure needs of all Americans are taken into full consideration upon developing these vital recommendations. We greatly appreciate your Administration’s announced intention to include specific rural infrastructure proposals as part of your legislative proposal later this year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Agribusiness Council of Indiana
Agricultural and Food Transporters Conference
Agricultural Retailers Association
Agriculture Transportation Coalition
Alabama Rural Electric Association of Cooperatives
Alaska Power Association
Alliance for I-69 Texas
Almond Alliance of California
American Association of Crop Insurers
American Cotton Shippers Association
American Dairy Coalition
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Horse Council
American Sheep Industry Association
American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers
American Soybean Association
Arkansas Electric Cooperatives
Arkansas Soybean Association
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives
Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives
Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives
Board on Agriculture Assembly of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Bongards Premium Cheese
California Association of Winegrape Growers
Colorado Rural Electric Association
Cooperative Network
Corn Refiners Association
Council for Affordable & Rural Housing
Crop Insurance Professionals Association
Empire State Potato Growers, Inc.
Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association
Equipment Dealers Association
Farm Credit Council
Farmer Mac
Farmworker Association of Florida, Inc.
Federation of Southern Cooperatives Rural Training and Research Center
First District Association
Florida Electric Cooperatives Association
Georgia Electric Membership Corporation
Golden State Power Cooperative
Grain and Feed Association of Illinois
Great Plains Canola Association
I-14 / Gulf Coast Strategic Highway Coalition
Idaho Consumer-Owned Utilities Association
Idaho Grain Producers Association
Illinois Corn Growers Association
Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association
Illinois Soybean Association
Indiana Corn Growers Association
Indiana Electric Cooperatives
Indiana Soybean Alliance
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives
Iowa Corn Growers Association
Iowa Institute for Cooperatives
Iowa Soybean Association
Kansas Association of Wheat Growers
Kansas Cooperative Council
Kansas Electric Cooperatives
Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Kansas Soybean Association
Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives
Kentucky Corn Growers Association
Kentucky Soybean Association
Louisiana Association of Cooperatives
Louisiana Ground Water Association
Maryland Grain Producers Association
Michigan Agri-Business Association
Michigan Bean Shippers
Michigan Electric Cooperative Association
Michigan Soybean Association
Midwest Shippers Association
Minnesota AgriGrowth Council
Minnesota Corn Growers Association
Minnesota Farmers Union
Minnesota Grain and Feed Association
Minnesota Milk Producers Association
Minnesota Pork Producers Association
Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Mississippi Soybean Association
Missouri Corn Growers Association
Missouri Soybean Association
Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association
Montana Grain Growers Association
National Association of Counties
National Association of Development Organizations
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools
National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils
Northeast Association of Electric Cooperatives
Northeast Cooperative Council
NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association
Ohio Agribusiness Association
Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers
Ohio Dairy Producers Association
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
Ohio Pork Council
Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives
Ohio Soybean Association
Oklahoma Agribusiness Retailers Association
Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council
Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives
Oklahoma Soybean Association
Oklahoma Wheat Growers Association
Oregon Potato Commission
Oregon Wheat Growers League
Panhandle Peanut Growers Association
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association
Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors
Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association
Rural and Agriculture Council of America
Rural Coalition/Coalición Rural
Rural Community Assistance Partnership
Rural Community College Alliance
Rural Development Leadership Network
SE Minnesota Grain and Feed Dealers
Select Milk Producers, Inc.
South Carolina Fertilizer and AgriChemical Association
South Carolina Peach Council
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives
South Dakota Corn Growers Association
South Dakota Rural Electric Association
South Dakota Soybean Association
Southern Peanut Farmers Federation
Southwest Council of Agribusiness
Soy Transportation Coalition
State Agriculture and Rural Leaders
Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association
Tennessee Soybean Association
Texas Ag Industries Association
Texas Elective Cooperatives
Texas Grain and Feed Association
Texas Vegetation Management Association
The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina
U.S. Canola Association
U.S. Dry Bean Council
U.S. Forage Export Council
U.S. Poultry and Egg Association
United Egg Producers
United Fresh Produce Association
USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council
USA Rice
Utah Rural Electric Association
Virginia Agribusiness Council
Virginia Beef Industry Council
Virginia Cattlemen's Association
Virginia Cooperative Council
Virginia Farm Bureau
Virginia FFA Association
Virginia Horse Council
Virginia Poultry Federation
Virginia State Dairymen's Association
Virginia Telecommunications Industry Association
Virginia Water Well Association
Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives
Washington Association of Wheat Growers
Washington State Potato Commission
Water Systems Council
Water Well Trust
Waterways Council, Inc.
West Virginia Farm Bureau
West Virginia FFA and Agricultural Education
West Virginia Poultry Association
Western Peanut Growers Association
Wisconsin Agri-business Association
Wisconsin Corn Growers Association
Wisconsin Soybean Association
Women Involved in Farm Economics
WTA - Advocates for Rural Broadband
Wyoming Rural Electric Association

CC: The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross, Jr. Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce