From: john trausch
To: Marx, Joshua A NWK;
Subject: Intermodal Environmental Impact
Date: Thursday, August 06, 2009 9:05:05 PM

Dear Mr. Marx:

I'm writing to express my concerns about the impact that the proposed intermodal facility will have on the city of Gardner and the Hillsdale region where I live. Along with a good number of residents of this area, I am concerned that the full impact upon our environment needs to be assessed before approval can be given to this tremendous project. It is my understanding that a full environmental impact study is to be done, particularly when federal funds are being granted.

The large number of container rail cars that are to be hauled in by train to be off-loaded and then hauled out by tractor trailers is a gargantuan task. Diesel exhaust from the trains is merely the beginning, added to by the diesel exhaust from the tens of thousands (perhaps more), of tractors to be deployed to in dispatching these container loads. This great amount of diesel exhaust needs to be assessed for its impact on the air quality--especially for the neighboring schools---as well as the impact on the water in the region, much of it draining toward the Hillsdale watershed. Impact on the community's roadways, especially as it impacts the lives of local residents is also needed.

I'm writing to urge you to gather all pertinent data for a full environmental impact, and have it reviewed by an neutral third party. Please help us keep our environment clean and healthy, as well as economically productive for the future.

Sincerely,

John T Trausch
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Spring Hill, KS 66083