



T +1 501 508 2828

F +1 501 400 8679

425 W. Capitol Ave; Suite 400

Little Rock, AR 72201 USA

[www.gtl1.com](http://www.gtl1.com)

The Honorable Elaine Chao,  
Department of Transportation,  
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE,  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Madam Secretary,

It gives me great pleasure to submit this letter in support of Judge Robinson's efforts to construct and upgrade the road network in Jefferson County, Arkansas, in the vicinity and leading to the GTL America's (GTLA) project site.

The GTLA gas to liquids (GTL) project is a multi-phased, multi-billion dollar, multi-year construction endeavor. It will be the single largest investment in Arkansas history. It will bring to Jefferson County approximately 2500 construction jobs over a 10-year period as each phase is added and constructed. Phase 1 will employ 250 full time workers and, as additional phases are added, GTLA likely will become the largest employer in the County.

The GTLA project, aside from its economic contribution to Jefferson County, also represents the development of a major infrastructure project, adds a significant new large natural gas consuming and utilization application, contributes to national security and underscores United States energy independence. GTLA will establish a center of excellence for the manufacture of clean diesel (40% less emissions than regular diesel) and, ultimately, clean jet fuel in a Qualified Opportunity Zone (QOZ).

The goal of QOZ legislation is to promote sustainable economic development in impoverished areas in order to improve the standard of living and raise economic well-being. The GTLA project certainly meets and exceeds all criteria. The Build Grant funding will provide key transportation infrastructure necessary to our particular QOZ.

It is our belief that the GTLA project will draw both secondary and tertiary investments and economic development to Jefferson County. These companies and investors will also require a fit-for-purpose road, safe and well flowing traffic network.

The GTLA site has at its eastern boundary the Arkansas River where a port will be built to move equipment during construction and facilitate the shipment of clean diesel and naphtha to New Orleans. The western boundary of this 1800-acre site abuts the Union Pacific rail line. Two miles to the north is situated an Entergy power plant that will provide electricity during construction. Interstate 530, which connects Pine Bluff to Little Rock, is located about 2 miles west of the site. The site itself sits at an elevation of about one hundred feet above the river and flood plain. All in all, we have an excellent site for nearly all logistics possibilities. The site's Achilles heel, however, is the need for a suitable road network. This can be resolved with the road plan that Judge Robinson has outlined.

I, therefore, fully endorse the sincere and proactive efforts of Judge Robinson and Jefferson County to seek the Build Grant as it will enhance this rural QOZ and Jefferson County's ability to establish a sustainable new industrial base for economic development and the betterment of all citizens in the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leon Cordon', written over a horizontal line.

Leon Cordon  
President, GTL Americas LP