

# CASTLEROCK GREEN ENERGY

437 Madison Avenue, 24th Floor  
New York, NY 10022

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Amit Bose, Administrator  
Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**SUBJECT: Support for *Driving Maine's Rural Economy through Freight Rail Efficiency* CRISI 2024 Grant**

Dear Administrator Bose,

I'm writing on behalf of Castlerock Green Energy to express our strong support for the Maine Department of Transportation's application for the 2024 CRISI Grant. The grant would fund crucial improvements to the Eastern Maine Railway (EMR) line through the Driving Maine's Rural Economy through Freight Rail Efficiency Project. This initiative is vital for rehabilitating dormant tracks to connect the One North Industrial Park in Millinocket with efficient and sustainable rail services.

This project will:

1. Replace outdated rail infrastructure across 130 miles of the EMR line, enhancing supply chain reliability and reducing transportation costs.
2. Connect Maine's forest products industry to export markets.
3. Support new businesses and quality jobs in rural areas.
4. Lower greenhouse gas emissions by shifting more freight from trucks to rail.
5. Reduce truck traffic and accidents on rural roads.
6. Boost Maine's competitiveness in the global market.

**As developers of a \$200-million biofuel facility at One North, we anticipate creating over 100 temporary construction jobs and up to 40 permanent roles while also supporting Maine's working forest, logistics, and transportation sectors. Reliable rail service is essential for us to access the materials we need and to connect with national and international markets. The improved rail infrastructure will also attract other businesses, supporting local economic growth.**

We believe this public-private partnership will enhance existing businesses and foster sustainable industries in our region. We respectfully request that the FRA give favorable consideration to this critical project.

Sincerely,



John Murphy  
Executive Director, Castlerock Green Energy