

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1803**

May 16, 2019

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
West Wing  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20502

President Trump:

Thank you for your recent visit to the 3<sup>rd</sup> District of Louisiana to tour Sempra Energy's Cameron LNG Export Facility. Your visit brought national attention to the over \$100 billion in announced energy projects and \$65 billion in projects already underway in the region.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> District is home to historic economic growth and job creation as part of the LNG boom, and I am honored that you recognize Louisiana's significance regarding American energy dominance. In Calcasieu and Cameron parishes, projects like Sasol, Cheniere, Sabine Pass LNG, Driftwood LNG, Magnolia LNG, Cameron LNG, and many others are creating tens of thousands of jobs and generating billions in economic development. Southwest Louisiana is quickly becoming a global leader in energy exports.

Your leadership will continue to play a large role in the success of these projects. While historic tax cuts, regulatory reform, and an America-first business climate have paved the way for projects like these, we must also focus on the infrastructure needs of this region. It was uplifting to hear your commitment to beginning the work needed to build a new bridge over Interstate 10 (I-10) in Lake Charles, La.

As you may know, the current I-10 Calcasieu River bridge opened for traffic in 1952 and was designed for a traffic load of 37,000 crossings per day with a 50-year life span. In 2016, the average daily crossings were over 80,000.

As you have seen firsthand, Southwest Louisiana's economic boom is driving the need for a new bridge. While our region is the fastest growing in Louisiana and among the top nationally for economic growth, Southwest Louisiana's growing infrastructure needs have largely been unaddressed. In order for the State and the nation to fully capitalize on the success of these projects and corresponding job creation, we must ensure that the region receives the

infrastructure resources it needs to thrive. This includes funding for a new Interstate bridge and the dredging of our waterways.

With strategic investments, we can unlock Southwest Louisiana's full economic potential, which will be a major benefit to the entire nation.

Again, I am grateful for your personal attention to the growing national significance and infrastructure needs of Southwest Louisiana. My office stands at the ready to assist with or answer any questions you and your team may have about the I-10 Calcasieu River bridge and a potential replacement.

Respectfully,

  
Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress