



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY  
GOVERNOR

May 7, 2009

The Honorable Ed Stelmach  
Premier of Alberta  
307 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2B6  
CANADA

Dear Premier Stelmach:

It is with great pleasure that I write to offer my personal congratulations to you and the Province of Alberta on joining the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition. Although I am not able to be present for this special event, my thoughts and good wishes are with you all there in Edmonton.

When we met in December, I was glad to find that Texas has a true ally to the north. Our jurisdictions, Alberta and Texas, have much in common. We are both major producers of energy and leading sources of new technologies and innovations.

As we have discovered, we fight many of the same battles, too. We both believe that it is possible to reduce greenhouse gas emissions without harming the economy, and that costly regulation reduces our ability to provide energy and other products to our citizens. As longstanding leaders in energy development and production, it is critical that we collaborate to identify opportunities for the development of new technologies and innovations to further our vital energy and transportation infrastructures. These efforts are essential to the production of affordable alternative energy, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions throughout North America and the nurturance of our regions' competitiveness in the global economy.

The partnership you are celebrating today comes at an important time. The U.S. Congress has begun its initial deliberations on the next comprehensive highway reauthorization and financing bill. For the first time, energy and environmental issues will be of vital concern during these deliberations. It is my hope that your participation in the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition will speak volumes to the importance of funding for the maintenance and improvement of our nation's vital trade corridors, as well as the importance of limiting unnecessary regulations that hinder trade and innovation between our jurisdictions.

The Honorable Ed Stelmach

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The citizens of both Alberta and Texas are known for their entrepreneurial spirits. I look forward to working together on our common interests, goals and challenges for ensuring robust trade and continued development of our economies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font. The "R" is large and loops around the "i". The "P" is also large and loops around the "e". The "y" has a long, sweeping tail.

Rick Perry  
Governor

RP:khp

cc: Mr. Fred Underwood, Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission  
Mr. Michael Reeves, President, Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition  
Ms. Cindy Mueller, Federal Legislative Affairs Manager, Texas Department of  
Transportation