



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

March 26, 2010

Stanley Gee, Acting Commissioner  
New York State Department of Transportation  
50 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12232

Commissioner Gee:

As you are aware, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is cooperating with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) on the replacement of the Lake Champlain Bridge between Crown Point, NY, and Addison (Chimney Point), VT. Although the two states will jointly finance and own the bridge, NYSDOT is the lead agency for awarding and managing the contract for the bridge project.

On behalf of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, we write to express our concern that a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) could, depending on its terms, exclude Vermont contractors or subcontractors from competing on fair terms for project bids. The Committees would oppose any Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with terms that would have the effect of imposing higher costs on non-union contractors or subcontractors relative to the costs of union contractors or subcontractors, or otherwise would have the effect of putting any Vermont contractors or subcontractors at a competitive disadvantage. Moreover, the Committees would oppose any PLA with terms prescribing that Vermont contractors or subcontractors hire outside their usual labor pool, or specifying that they preferentially hire outside their usual labor pool before hiring within it.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Richard T. Mazza in cursive.

Sen. Richard T. Mazza, Chairman  
Senate Committee on Transportation  
Vermont General Assembly

Handwritten signature of Patrick M. Brennan in cursive.

Rep. Patrick M. Brennan, Chairman  
House Committee on Transportation  
Vermont General Assembly

Cc: Governor David A. Paterson  
Governor James Douglas  
David C. Dill, Secretary of Transportation, VTrans  
Dan Brush, GCIU Local One  
Nicholas Sherman, Kimbell Sherman Ellis, LLP (Vermont Paving Association)  
Cathy Voyer, Associated General Contractors of Vermont