



ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS

**Office of the President
Edward R. Hamberger
President and Chief Executive Officer**

June 18, 2009

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
U.S. House of Representatives
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Blumenauer:

Thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 1329, the "Clean, Low-Emission, Affordable, New Transportation Efficiency Act" (CLEAN TEA).

As you noted in your introductory statement, "It is critical that legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions also provides...low-carbon...transportation alternatives." We fully agree.

Freight railroads move a ton of freight an average of 457 miles on just one gallon of fuel, making rail at least three times more fuel-efficient than trucks. In fact, if just 10 percent of the long-distance freight that currently moves by truck moved by rail instead, fuel savings would exceed one billion gallons each year – and greenhouse gas emissions would fall by more than 12 million tons.

H.R. 1329 would dedicate a portion of the auction proceeds from a future climate change bill to transportation projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Eligible projects would be anything that is proven to reduce greenhouse gases, including "additional freight rail capacity."

We are pleased to endorse the approach taken by H.R. 1329 and we look forward to working with you as the bill moves ahead.

Sincerely

Edward R. Hamberger