



June 6, 2011

Hon. Antonio Villaraigosa  
Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
200 N. Spring Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dr. Geraldine Knatz  
Executive Director, POLA  
425 South Palos Verdes Street  
San Pedro, CA 90731 □

*Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners*

Cindy Miscikowski, President

David Arian, Vice-President

Kaylynn L. Kim

Douglas P. Krause

Robin Kramer

425 South Palos Verdes Street

San Pedro, CA 90731 □

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa, Dr. Knatz and Members of the Board of Harbor Commissioners:

The San Pedro Chamber of Commerce through its Board of Directors would like to the urge you to support the Southern California International Gateway (SCIG), BNSF Railway's proposed near-dock rail facility, and look forward to imminent publication the draft EIR

As you know, the Port of Los Angeles ranks as the nation's busiest port and the Port of Long Beach is the nation's second busiest. Together they represent more than \$300 billion in U.S. trade and 3.3 million jobs nationwide. Being concerned with the Economic growth of the Harbor area, the Chamber is well aware that the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are major drivers of our local economy, accounting for 740,000 plus jobs in Southern California, the second largest source of jobs in the greater five-county region.

It is vital that the Ports grow green now to ensure the continued economic development of Southern California and the environmental health of the region. SCIG is an innovative solution to green growth and is aligned with Los Angeles Mayor Villaraigosa's efforts to improve port efficiency.

SCIG will utilize existing capacity in the Alameda Corridor and remove an estimated one million trucks off the 710 Freeway thus contributing to improved air quality in the region.

In addition to BNSF's original commitments, which include electric cranes, LNG or equivalent yard tractors and low-emission switch engines – making the facility the cleanest in the United States – BNSF has committed to the following enhancements in connection with SCIG:

- 100 percent of the truck fleet servicing SCIG will be 2007 or newer upon facility opening
- Trucks serving SCIG will be limited to traveling on specified non-residential truck routes and be equipped with global positioning satellite (GPS) devices to monitor and enforce compliance.





- ❑ BNSF's operating contractor will give qualified local residents first priority for jobs at SCIG.
- ❑ BNSF will fund a workforce-training program to assist area residents in obtaining these jobs.

As evidenced in its mission statement, the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce “*promotes, supports, and advocates the interests of the business community, by actively working to develop a vital and sustainable local economy that also enhances the social and environmental resources of the community.*” Our belief is that **green growth** is essential to fulfilling our mission, and that SCIG is an ideal example of green growth. We urge you to move ahead with the publication of the EIR for this facility.

Sincerely,

Anthony Pirozzi  
Chairperson, Board of Directors

Camilla Townsend  
President/CEO

