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

February 14, 2019

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*SHAWN*

Dear Secretary Wilson:

I am looking forward to meeting with you during your upcoming trip to Washington. In advance of our visit, I wanted to once again draw your attention to the Interstate-49 Inner-City Connector (ICC) in Shreveport. As you know, your department and the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG) have been working together for purposes of completing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for this project.

Unfortunately, it is my understanding that the cultural resource survey (CRS) portion of the EIS has been subjected to a significant amount of bureaucratic delay, which has extended the completion of the Inner-City Connector far beyond its original schedule.

According to NLCOG, the draft CRS was submitted to your department electronically on June 21, 2018, with the expectation that it would be approved no later than the end of 2018. Since that time, NLCOG has requested several updates from DOTD on the status of the CRS, to which DOTD has generally responded that the draft CRS is "close to completion." Because of these long delays, I am now told the approval of the final EIS is not expected to occur until the second quarter of 2020 at the earliest.

I understand the need to be thorough and seriously consider the environmental impacts of government action, but our citizens expect and deserve that such reviews should be done in an efficient manner and with a minimum amount of bureaucratic delay. I respectfully request that you take every appropriate action to streamline the EIS process for the I-49 ICC while maintaining its integrity.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. I look forward to discussing it in person when you visit.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson  
Member of Congress