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November, 16, 2011

Dear

Last Thursday nearly 150 business leaders from across Maine gathered in Bangor for a full day forum organized by the Action Committee of 50 focused on the economic potential for the existing logistics triangle in Eastern Maine. They left energized and motivated to actively work toward leveraging our existing assets and grow our economy. I have attached documents and information presented at the forum to this message for your reference.

At the conclusion of the forum, action steps to advance this effort were identified –one of which is to commission an independent study regarding the construction of a “private east-west highway” in Maine. The group was informed that Senator Doug Thomas had attempted to introduce legislation regarding this important initiative into the second session of the legislature in 2012. It is my understanding that the Legislative Council did not view this as an emergency measure and, by an 8-2 vote, chose not to consider it for the 2012 session.

On behalf of our partner organizations in Mobilize Eastern Maine, it is my fervent hope that you will reconsider your previous action and instead allow legislation to move forward that would provide discussion to take place regarding this important strategic effort. A highway connecting the eastern and western parts of our state are a critical component to our economic growth, particularly in the manufacturing sector. Connecting Searsport, Eastport and Bangor International Airport to the Canadian and Western United States regions would provide significant advantages to our region as we continue to make Eastern Maine a great place to work, live and play.

I hope that you’ll join in support of this effort. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael W. Aube'.

Michael Aube
President and CEO
Eastern Maine Development Corporation

Mobilize Eastern Maine
Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce, Bangor Region Development Alliance, Greater Bangor Convention and Visitors Bureau, Access Atlantica, Tri-County Workforce Investment Board, Target, The Action Committee of 50