

January 23, 2023

Representative Thomas, Chair House Agriculture Committee ND Capitol Building Bismarck, ND 50504

Representative Thomas and House Agriculture Committee,

I am writing this in support of House Bill 1437.

Traill County is currently having an infrastructure study done provided through our partnership with the North Dakota Livestock Alliance. We were approached to be part of a pilot project several months ago. They in turn contracted with a firm to do the actual legwork – collecting resources, conducting research, and gathering and generating reports – that an organization like ours would have very little chance of accomplishing on our own.

The vision behind all this planning and organization, of course, is to have site-ready land identified if and when a company would choose North Dakota for its next location. Being able to quickly discern the ideal land for transportation, power, water, proximity to other locations, etc. is a competitive advantage I know our neighbors in South Dakota currently have.

Having these resources available quickly is absolutely a key component of attracting new companies to our region and state. Additionally, having this resource available will be great a tool to attract other types of businesses because these same types of variables are important to a variety of other types of projects, as well.

If you have questions or concerns you can contact me via email: (director@traillcountyedc.com), on my office phone at (701) 636-4746 or even on my cell at (701) 430-1644.

Sincerely,

Jim Murphy

Executive Director,

Traill County Economic Development Commission