

DORIS O. MATSUI
5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON RULES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0505

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August 20, 2010

Mr. Thomas C. Carper
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Amtrak
60 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Chairman Carper:

It has come to my attention that a number of companies have submitted bids to Amtrak to build up to 70 electric locomotives. One of these companies, Siemens, has a manufacturing plant that would build the locomotives in the Congressional District that I represent.

As you know, unemployment is a major issue in our country, and especially in California. Statistics released earlier this month by the Employment Development Department show that the state's unemployment rate is at 12.3% and Sacramento's unemployment rate is approximately 12.1%. Additionally, the neighborhoods near Siemens' manufacturing site have a 20% unemployment rate; more than double the nation's average.

As you review the bids, I encourage you to consider the job creation possibilities, as Amtrak could help create over 300 new jobs in Sacramento, an area that has been hit harder than most others by unemployment. Creating new jobs is vitally needed in our nation and their proposal has the potential to help hundreds of American families. Siemens has had a valued manufacturing presence in Sacramento for more than a quarter century. The company has invested in upgrading and expanding their manufacturing site while also reducing their environmental footprint with a two megawatt solar field that provides nearly 80% of the plant's power.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this issue, consistent with applicable law and regulations. If you have any questions about this matter, please contact my office at (916) 498-5600.

Sincerely,



DORIS O. MATSUI
Member of Congress