

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



JAMES L. SEWARD

SENATOR, 51ST DISTRICT

February 5, 2008

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Mr. Stephen Fiske
Senior Manager Business Development-US
Canadian Pacific Railway
200 Clifton Corporate Parkway
P.O. Box 8002
Clifton Park, New York 12065

**RE: CP Railroad bridges, Otsego County
Brooker Hollow Road, Town of Worcester
Route 7/Pony Farm Road, Town of Oneonta**

Dear Mr. Fiske:

I write to express in urgent and clear terms my view that CP Rail must expedite its response to the deteriorating condition of the Brooker Hollow Road bridge in the Town of Worcester and the (now closed) railroad bridge spanning state route 7 and Pony Farm Road in the Town of Oneonta. In both cases, lives of residents and the health of local businesses are affected by delay in planning an adequate response to the bridges' conditions.

As we start the year 2008, I must remind CP Rail that the condition of the bridges has been a concern of mine, and of local residents, for three years. For three years or more the railroad has been aware of the deterioration of the structures, and I had hoped that you would be further along in planning and budgeting for the bridges' repair or replacement, particularly since I helped secure funding toward a portion of CP's expenses for the final alternatives or replacement structures. CP's failure to plan over the years for the bridges' replacement is of great concern, and now, in the middle of a winter, alternate plans must be arranged.

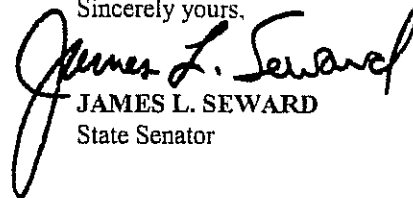
The closing of the bridge in the Town of Oneonta heightens the urgency of the matter, leaving residents with only one exit via a circuitous route through an industrial park.

I must ask CP Rail to raise the issue to a high priority and ensure that construction begins this year.

This is a matter of the utmost seriousness to my constituents, and therefore, to me.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,


JAMES L. SEWARD
State Senator

cc: Supervisor Robert Wood, Town of Oneonta ✓
Supervisor Ron Tiderencel, County Superintendent of Hwys
Supervisor Larry Anteman, Town of Worcester
Chris Cernik, Greenberg-Traurig
Jack Williams, DOT