

August 7, 2006

Subj: Bridge Access to the West End of Pony Farm Road

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to you as a concerned employer & on behalf of my residential neighbors. Our business is located at 330 Pony Farm Road. There are several businesses (approximately 25 employees total) located at this address; Commlnnovations, Village Printer, Solutions Integrators, AutoTech Electronics, UHaul & Century Storage. There are about a dozen residences along this portion of Pony Farm Road.

The recent floods have caused the bridge on Pony Farm Road across Otego Creek to be closed. We are concerned about seeing this road reopened as soon as possible.

Our business is being affected in many ways:

Fire & other emergency vehicles exceeding 15 tons are prevented from using this access & the emergency only alternate at grade access is often blocked by railcars for extended periods

Delivery & construction vehicles exceeding 15 tons cannot reach us at all

Even before these floods we have seen this access to this end of Pony Farm Road closed or impassible for periods of time due to floods, road repair or heavy snow. For this reason the railroad bridge connecting Pony Farm Road to Route 7 is of vital importance. This bridge was once rated as unlimited is now restricted to vehicles under 15 tons. Loss of this bridge would cause the loss of jobs adversely affect property values on this end of Pony Farm Road. It would also deprive the Industrial Park of its second entrance.

Improved lighting at this bridge is important to improve safety.

Other communities have found solutions to similar problems: the E. Worcester Bridge was repaired & the Otsego County Board of Representatives recently approved funding for the Susquehanna Avenue Bridge connecting Otsego & Middlefield.

We look forward to working together with you to find solutions for our bridge problem

Bill Castine