



STATE SENATOR
Eric Wimberger
DISTRICT 2

Wisconsin Department of Administration
c/o Secretary-Designee Kathy Blumenfeld
101 East Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53703

May 23, 2025

Dear Secretary-designee Blumenfeld,

Last week, you announced your decision to revoke \$15 million in Neighborhood Investment Fund grant funding administered by the Department of Administration funding for the Port of Green Bay. Please consider extending your May 30 deadline for Brown County and the C. Reiss Coal Co. to negotiate an agreement, and keep this critical investment for the Port of Green Bay on track.

These funds will assist in the former Pulliam site redevelopment into a new, state-of-the-art facility for the Port of Green Bay. With nearby rail access and connections to the interstate system, converting the Pulliam site into an active Port terminal will further cement Northeast Wisconsin's connection to the global economy, and create \$87 million in economic impact over five years for our local economy.

Pulling grant funding will be detrimental to an environmental remediation and major quality of life improvements for residents of Green Bay and the greater Brown County area. Moving the coal piles from their current location in downtown Green Bay to the redesigned Pulliam site will also open one of the city's most impoverished areas to economic revitalization, including new mixed-used developments, housing projects, and further employment opportunities. Relocating the coal from its current location will support environmental efforts by shifting a hazard away from an area populated with nearly 1,700 residents to an area of the city zoned strictly for commercial activity, thereby reducing the threat of harmful contaminants making contact with nearby citizens. Port development will also remediate contamination from PCBs and fly ash around the port site.

In accordance with federal guidelines for State Fiscal Recovery Funds, the state obligated these funds prior to the December 31, 2024 federal deadline, with the intent to further develop the Port of Green Bay. I ask that regardless of the outcome of these negotiations, the department remain committed to this obligation, and assist the county in using these funds to further develop and expand the Port of Green Bay.

Revoking the grant will seriously jeopardize a once-in-a-generation opportunity to bolster Northeast Wisconsin's role in our state's supply chain and the global economy following the Covid pandemic. We cannot afford to let this moment for such a massive development pass us by.

My staff and I are available to assist you in any way we can. Together, I am hopeful we can put Brown County and the Port of Green Bay on the path for decades of economic growth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Wimberger".

Senator Eric Wimberger