



Jamie Pafford-Gresham
Pafford Medical Services
8613 Highway 12
Ackerman, Mississippi 39735
April 29, 2024

Congressman Trent Kelly
2243 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kelly,

I am writing to express Pafford Medical Services' full support for the initiative to build a new fire and EMS station near the Red Hills complex in our county. As requested by Randy Loper, Choctaw County Director of Economic Development, and Joey Stevens, President of the Board of Supervisors, we understand the critical need for this facility in our community and wish to endorse its development.

The proposed location of the station, situated at the geographic center of the county and adjacent to the largest industrial complexes, including TVA, Entergy, and North American Coal, highlights the urgency of this endeavor. These industrial sites are vital contributors to our local economy, employing hundreds of individuals who face occupational risks daily. Having a dedicated station nearby provides a rapid response to workplace accidents or emergencies and this quick access to professional medical assistance can reduce the severity of injuries and minimize the potential for accidents to escalate into more significant crises while enabling employers to feel more confident knowing that help is close by in the event of an incident.

Beyond its primary role in emergency response, the station presents an opportunity to foster community health and safety initiatives. With adequate space, we envision conducting essential training programs such as CPR and first aid, thereby empowering residents with life-saving skills and fostering a culture of preparedness. The proposed station's dual functionality, housing both a full-time fire crew and Pafford Medical Services EMS crew members, exemplifies a collaborative approach to public safety that aligns with our mission to provide exceptional care to the communities we serve.

We stand ready to assist in any capacity necessary to expedite the realization of this critical infrastructure project, and we firmly believe that investing in the construction of this fire and EMS station is not only a prudent decision but also a testament to our commitment to safeguarding the welfare of our community's citizens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jamie Pafford-Gresham'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jamie Pafford-Gresham, President/CEO



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CHOCTAW COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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April 29, 2024

The Honorable Trent Kelly
Rayburn House Office Building
Independence Avenue SW #2243
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kelly:

On behalf of the Choctaw County Emergency Management Agency, I am writing to express my support and confirm the extreme need for a new Fire station/EMT Station in the central part of our county. Having this facility near the Red Hills complex would serve multiple needs. It would be extremely beneficial to the health and safety of the people of Choctaw County to be able to dispatch emergency services from a centralized location.

Another advantage is that the proposed location would be close to three of our major industries in the county and to the Choctaw County EcoPlex. We have two power plants and a coal mine that collectively employ hundreds of people who are onsite all hours of the day. Efforts are ongoing to recruit more industries into our EcoPlex. Emergency services near these industrial facilities are a critical need.

Fire services throughout the county are volunteer supported. With a new Fire Station/EMT Station, our county would have the opportunity to employ fire fighters to go along with our professional EMT services. An additional benefit of this new facility would be meeting space to conduct emergency services training for staff, volunteers, and the public.

Thank you for your support of all the first responder services in our county and throughout the first congressional district. We appreciate what you do for us in Washington. If you need additional information or help from me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brent McKnight".

Brent McKnight
Choctaw County EMA Director



MISSISSIPPI LIGNITE MINING COMPANY

April 29, 2024

Congressman Trent Kelly
2243 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kelly,

I am fortunate enough to work in Choctaw County at Mississippi Lignite Mining Company outside of Ackerman. The 200-plus men and women who work at our Red Hills lignite mine are proud of the part they play in providing coal for electrical power in North Mississippi. But we are only one part of a complex of energy-related industries in the Red Hills complex. Southern Company's Red Hills Power Plant – for which we provide coal – and TVA's Ackerman Combined Cycle power plant also employ a large number of mostly local men and women.

I am proud, as I know they are at the power plants, of our commitment to safety and our decades-long record of safe production. Part of that commitment is having a plan in place to respond to any emergency as quickly as possible. It is my understanding that Choctaw County is seeking to build a combined fire/EMT station adjacent to the Red Hills complex that would be able to respond quickly to an emergency at the power plants, the mine, and to the surrounding residents. Please allow this letter to convey my enthusiastic support for this venture. In an emergency, time is often of the essence. Having a fire and EMT station less than five minutes from three major industrial sites will provide a level of response that is sure to lessen the impact of an emergency we work hard never to experience. Further, I believe this facility will also be a selling point for other industries who may be considering locating at the Red Hills complex.

Thank you for taking my thoughts under advisement and for your assistance to Choctaw County as they seek funding for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew S. Jones".

Matthew S. Jones, PE
President,
Mississippi Lignite Mining Company



Mississippi State Senate

SENATOR BART WILLIAMS

District 15

Serving Choctaw, Montgomery, Oktibbeha, and Webster Counties

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April 28, 2024

Congressman Trent Kelly
2243 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kelly,

As Senator of District 15, I am writing in support of helping fund a combination fire station and EMT Station near Red Hills Complex where we have two power plants and a coal mine. We also have an industrial park that we are currently looking to recruit some additional tenants for.

I believe that it is important to have fire protection and to have emergency services available for nearby families and constituents that live and work in the area. This combined Fire Station and EMT station would be nearly in the center of the county, which would not only keep our community safe but also create jobs for additional economic development opportunities.

I am committed to work for my community in the state legislature to work toward improving fire protection, and safety for rural counties throughout the state in and in my district. The assistance and the support of our federal partners is crucial to those improvements.

Please consider helping our county, let me know if there is anything I can assist you with.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bart Williams".

Bart Williams
Mississippi State Senate
District 15