



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

April 6, 2017

The Honorable Frank A. LoBiondo
U.S. House of Representatives
2427 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Albio Sires
U.S. House of Representatives
2342 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen LoBiondo and Sires:

The multiple train derailments at Penn Station New York (PSNY) and the severe service disruption they continue to cause beleaguering commuters is inexcusable. Amtrak has an obligation to properly maintain the rail infrastructure comprising the Northeast Corridor (NEC) in a state-of-good repair, including tracks and assets at PSNY, and it has manifestly failed to do so, notwithstanding the substantial sums provided by Congress and NJ TRANSIT for that very purpose. Indeed, earlier this morning, Amtrak admitted that both recent derailments at PSNY were caused by faulty tracks.

In spite of increased financial support from NJ TRANSIT in accordance with the requirements of the Passenger Rail Improvement Act of 2008, Amtrak remains unable to responsibly maintain critical infrastructure on the NEC in a state-of-good-repair. NJ TRANSIT passengers are bearing the brunt of Amtrak's neglect of the NEC and disregard for its many users.

Accordingly, in your capacity as Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I call upon you to use all of the oversight powers available to you to hold Amtrak fully accountable for its repeated failures to properly expend funds to keep commuters safe and maintain an efficient mass transportation system for the NEC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie".

Chris Christie
Governor

cc: The Honorable Bill Pascrell
The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman
The Honorable Chris Smith
The Honorable Donald Norcross
The Honorable Donald Payne, Jr.
The Honorable Frank Pallone
The Honorable Josh Gottheimer
The Honorable Leonard Lance
The Honorable Tom McArthur