



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

ASSEMBLYWOMAN, 37TH DISTRICT

ONE ENGLE STREET

SUITE 108

ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631

(201) 541-1118

FAX: (201) 541-1071

EMAIL: aswvainerihuttle@njleg.org

COMMITTEES

CHAIRWOMAN

HUMAN SERVICES

VICE CHAIRWOMAN

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November 30, 2011

Board of Commissioners

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

225 Park Avenue South

New York, NY 10003

Dear Commissioners:

In the weeks leading up to approval of the recent toll increases, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey publicly justified the need for new funds by listing, among other projects to be financed, the redevelopment of the World Trade Center site. This project undoubtedly has great meaning not only for New Jersey and New York, but for the entire country.

Yet, in a legal response to AAA of New York's lawsuit, PANYNJ denies that the additional funding generated from the toll increases will pay for rebuilding at the World Trade Center site. This discrepancy raises the question of whether PANYNJ misled New Jersey commuters in order to gain support for an unpopular toll increase or whether it is now misleading the judicial system. Therefore, it is with great concern that I call on PANYNJ to immediately explain its actions and inform the public of how it truly intends to spend the new funds it is collecting.

Commuters of New Jersey and New York, as well as the millions of people who visit the New York Metropolitan area each year, trust PANYNJ with their hard-earned dollars and their lives. However, confusion over how the toll hike increase funds will be spent now challenges that trust. PANYNJ must be honest and transparent with commuters, who have a right to know what their toll fees are paying for.

Once again, I call on the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to publicly address this discrepancy, and refrain from implementing the next stages of the toll hike phase-in until PANYNJ is fully transparent with commuters and the public.

Sincerely,

Valerie Vainieri Huttle

Assemblywoman, District 37