

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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February 18, 2026

Mr. Matthew Moroun
Chief Executive Officer
Ambassador Bridge Company
2660 W Fort Street
Detroit, Michigan 48216

Dear Mr. Moroun:

It appears that you may have used your influence as a donor to President Donald Trump to jeopardize American commerce to protect your company's bottom line. Reports indicate that shortly after you met with Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick on February 9, 2026, Secretary Lutnick briefed President Trump, who then attacked the opening of the Gordie Howe International Bridge, an alternate route to the Ambassador Bridge owned by your family.¹ If your interference in the Gordie Howe International Bridge project succeeds, it could increase traffic congestion, reduce economic opportunity, and damage trade between the United States and Canada. To understand any undue influence you may have had on the United States's economic and foreign policy, we request information regarding your communications with the Trump Administration.

The Gordie Howe International Bridge, which President Trump once touted as a "vital economic link between our two countries," has been under construction for years. The bridge will connect Detroit, Michigan, and Windsor, Ontario, expanding access along one of the busiest connections between the U.S. and Canada.² Despite these public benefits, you and your family, who for decades have privately owned and operated the Ambassador Bridge that currently connects Detroit and Windsor, have long attempted to derail the project, as the new Gordie Howe International Bridge could reduce toll revenue to the Ambassador Bridge.³

¹ *Bridge Owner Lobbied Administration Before Trump Blasted Competing Span to Canada*, New York Times (Feb. 10, 2026) (online at www.nytimes.com/2026/02/10/world/canada/bridge-owner-trump-lutnick.html); *"Self-defeating": Trump's Gordie Howe Bridge Threat Upsets Businesses*, Detroit News (Feb. 10, 2026) (online at www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2026/02/10/business-groups-ticked-over-trump-gordie-howe-bridge-threat/88604411007/?gnt-cfr=1&gca-cat=p&gca-uir=true&gca-epi=z119829p000950n11----c11----v119829d--46--b--46--&gca-ft=232&gca-ds=sophi).

² Prime Minister of Canada, *Joint Statement from President Donald J. Trump and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau* (Feb. 13, 2017) (online at www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2017/02/13/joint-statement-president-donald-j-trump-and-prime-minister-justin).

³ *Bridge Owner Lobbied Administration Before Trump Blasted Competing Span to Canada*, New York Times (Feb. 10, 2026) (online at www.nytimes.com/2026/02/10/world/canada/bridge-owner-trump-lutnick.html).

The Detroit–Windsor corridor handles the largest volumes of cross-border trade in North America, including billions of dollars in automotive goods, advanced manufacturing inputs, and agricultural products.⁴ The Gordie Howe International Bridge is a strategic investment in American economic security, and improving capacity between Detroit and Windsor will strengthen the cross-border economy, improve supply chain resilience, and protect U.S. auto workers. Political interference and a resulting delay or blocking of the opening of the long-planned Gordie Howe International Bridge is likely to result in prolonged congestion and risks the disruption of cross-border production schedules, increasing costs for American manufacturers, and jeopardizing the U.S. auto industry.⁵

Your latest attempt to delay or block the opening of the Gordie Howe International Bridge, this time by directly appealing to the Trump Administration, appears to have been successful. On Monday, February 9, 2026, you reportedly met with Secretary Lutnick who then spoke with President Trump. President Trump subsequently took to social media, threatening to block the opening of the bridge unless Canada agrees to major concessions—including allowing the United States to acquire some of the toll revenue and “at least one half” of the new bridge, whose construction was fully paid by Canada. Notably, since 2019, you have donated more than \$605,000 to President Trump and the Republican Party.⁶ It is flatly unacceptable and undeniably corrupt for a wealthy donor to dictate our foreign and economic policy in order to protect their own personal business interests. The public deserves to know the truth of the circumstances surrounding the Trump Administration’s sudden interference on behalf of one of the President’s wealthy donors.

To ensure Congress can effectively perform its statutorily required oversight role, we request that you provide the following documents and information by March 4, 2026:

1. All documents and communications relating to your February 9, 2026, meeting with Secretary Howard Lutnick;
2. All communications between you, any member of the Moroun family, or any individual operating on behalf of the Moroun family, and any official of the

⁴ *Project Profile: Gordie Howe International Bridge*, Center for Innovative Finance Support, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation (online at www.fhwa.dot.gov/ipd/project_profiles/mi_gordie_howe_int_bridge.aspx) (accessed on Feb. 11, 2026); *Statement: Detroit Regional Chamber on The Gordie Howe International Bridge*, Detroit Regional Chamber (Feb. 9, 2026) (online at www.detroitchamber.com/statement-detroit-regional-chamber-on-the-gordie-howe-international-bridge/).

⁵ *Faster Crossings at The Canada-U.S. Border Via New Bridge Could Ease Supply Chain Pressures: WDBA*, CBC News (Aug. 21, 2025) (online at www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/windsor-gordie-howe-bridge-supply-chain-1.7614186); *Canada and The US: The Trade Relationship Is Huge, Profitable, and Bruised*, Detroit Regional Chamber (Dec. 22, 2025) (online at www.detroitchamber.com/canada-and-the-us-the-trade-relationship-is-huge-profitable-and-bruised/); *Two Cities, One Industry: US-Canada Auto Industry Took Generations to Build*, Detroit Regional Chamber (Dec. 22, 2025) (online at www.detroitchamber.com/two-cities-one-industry-us-canada-auto-industry-took-generations-to-build/).

⁶ *Trump’s Threat to Block Gordie Howe Bridge is Pure Oligarchy*, Detroit Metro Times (Feb. 10, 2026) (online at www.metrotimes.com/news/metro-detroit-news/trumps-threat-to-block-gordie-howe-bridge-is-pure-oligarchy/); *Trump Threatens to Block Opening of New Bridge to Canada*, New York Times (Feb. 9, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2026/02/09/us/politics/trump-gordie-howe-bridge-canada.html).

Commerce Department, the White House, or Executive Office of the President regarding the Gordie Howe International Bridge or the Ambassador Bridge, including but not limited to emails, calendar invitations, text messages, and private messages sent via social networking applications; and

3. All documents, records, communications, and other materials related to donations, financial transfers, loans, or payments between you, any member of the Moroun family, or any individual operating on behalf of the Moroun family, and the Trump campaign, the Republican Party, or any Trump-associated political action committee.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia
Ranking Member



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman