



May 15, 2003

The Honorable Randy "Duke" Cunningham  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2350 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0550

Dear Congressman Cunningham:

I am writing to you regarding the need for federal funding to ensure the completion of the missing State Route 56 (SR-56) freeway connectors at the SR-56/Interstate 5 (I-5) interchange in Carmel Valley. As a business owner, it is evident that the completion of the missing connectors is essential to the continued growth and prosperity of our business community and San Diego's overall economy.

With the completion of SR-56, we will have the much-needed link between Interstate 15 (I-15) and I-5 in north San Diego County. However, this project will still remain incomplete without the funding for construction of the SR-56/I-5 west to north and south to east connectors. Until these connectors are completed, vehicles will be forced onto local streets in Carmel Valley, resulting in an extremely inefficient traffic flow at the I-5/SR-56 interchange.

An additional consideration is the delay in residential development that will occur until the missing connectors are completed. It is estimated that 6,500 housing units, including more than 1,000 affordable homes, will not be built until the connectors are in place. This will result in the relocation of residential and business development to other parts of San Diego County or beyond, negatively impacting our economy and further extending our region's housing shortage.

We need your assistance in securing funding for completion of this critical transportation project, and those dollars will help make certain that the benefits of completing SR-56 will be fully realized. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vince Reardon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Vince Reardon  
Director, Corporate Communications  
IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation