

Cassandra L. Barr
2968 1/2 Barr Road
Hemingway SC 29554
Florence County
December 14, 2015

Governor Nikki R. Haley
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia SC 29201

To: The Honorable Nikki Haley, Governor of South Carolina

My name is Cassandra Barr. I am writing this letter to you representing eight different families. We all live in the Vox community, a part of Florence County, located between Johnsonville and Lake City South Carolina. We need your assistance and help in resolving a long standing problem with the road that leads to our homes. We have exhausted every avenue available to solve this problem without any success.

The problem is Old Farm road which is a dirt road provides the only access to our homes. It is not drivable after heavy rain. Public transportation vehicles have bogged down and must call a Tow Service. They refuse to transport patients when the road is in this condition. We have tried for more than 20 years to have Old Farm Road paved with no success. It connects two counties: Florence and Williamsburg. However, Williamsburg County paved their portion of Old Farm Road sometime between 2011 and 2012. The road condition has been further exacerbated by the recent logging company cutting trees, increasing the amount of heavy vehicle traffic on the road.

As I mentioned, Old Farm Road is the only access to our homes. The condition of the road is critical to our families. During extreme road condition, we must still go to work, school, and most importantly medical appointments; Public Service Transportation drivers refuse to travel Old Farm Road to get patients. Mr. James Barr is completely disable and must use the EMS to go to his medical appointments. He also depends on his Nursing Assistant to drive back and forth daily to his house to take care of him. I have to go to dialysis three times a week. The Ambulance has transported another family for a medical emergency as well. Thank goodness it had not rained and Old Farm Road was drivable. I shutter to think what may happen during a medical emergency where the medical service vehicle could not reach its patient because of poor road conditions, which is preventable.

Another reason for the poor road condition is the Logging Company cutting trees on Old Farm Road. This causes us to have an inability to travel the road even on the Williamsburg County portion which is paved. The Public Service vehicle got stuck using this alternate route of travel. Old Farm Road is maintained by Public Works (DOT) with red sand/clay which worsens the road when it rains. In previous years, DOT never used this type of sand addition to maintain Old Farm Road. This has caused my dialysis transportation vehicle to bog down twice in the past month.

We, the residents, are requesting Old Farm Road be paved or covered with gravel rock to drastically improve the road condition to prevent the preventable from happening a medical emergency with no way to transport the patient to a medical treatment facility.

I have already contacted the Mayor of Johnsonville, Public Works, and the County Councilman, Roger Poston, to assist in resolving this matter. Councilman Poston said that Florence County does not have the funds to pave or put gravel rocks on Old Farm Road. This is not an acceptable answer and may cost a South Carolinian their life. All the residents on Old Farm Road pay taxes and are impacted by the lack of ability to freely travel to and from our destinations.

Governor Haley, thank you for your time, concern, and assistance in resolving this very serious problem.

Respectfully,

Cassandra L. Barr
On Behalf of the Residence of Old Farm Road



Fresenius Medical Care

December 14, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Cassandra Barr

Ms. Barr is currently receiving treatment for End Stage Renal Disease at this facility three times per week. As you know, dialysis is a life-saving treatment for renal insufficiency. Ms. Barr resides on a dirt road that is maintained by public works and has had several occasions of being unable to come to treatment because of poor road conditions. To maintain optimum health, she needs to be adherent to treatment schedule three times per week.

Please provide her with any assistance possible to repair/maintain the roads so that she can access treatment. Should you require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,


INDERPAL SINGH MD

Fresenius Medical Care North America

Peri Dialysis, 331 Elizabeth Anne Courte, Lake City, South Carolina 29560

Phone (843) 394-3944: Fax (843) 394-1683

RE. Cassandra Barr phone # is 843-380-1538.

We, the residents of Old Farm Road near the Vox Highway are having extreme difficulty with the conditions of the road. This dirt road is used by log trucks and when it rains, it causes the road to be very difficult to travel. This inability to travel occurs each time it rains and has been exacerbated by the recent flood. The road is typically repaired/maintained with red sand/clay which causes residents to bog down when trying to maneuver to get to medical appointments work or school. We are requesting immediate change in the way the road is maintained/repared because this current situation is not effective. Please provide us with any assistance necessary to remedy this current situation. The persons signing below pay taxes and reside on this road and are impacted by the lack of ability to freely travel as needed. We have contacted the Mayor of Johnsonville and Hemingway as well as our local DOT officials without success. We thank you for your assistance.

Robert Barr

Cassandra L. Barr

Mary M Barr

Carolyn L. Barr

James C Barr

Charles Fennan

Veronica Barr

M. Fennan

Louaine Mayer

Jeff M. Fadden III

Kimberly M. Thomas

R. Fennan

Roberta Barr

CC: Steve Dukes, Mayor of Johnsonville, SC

Grady Richardson, Mayor of Hemingway, SC