North Carolina Short Line Railroads

Presentation to the NC Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee

March 8, 2018
US SHORT LINE RAILROAD QUICK FACTS

- 603 SHORT LINES
- 47,500 ROUTE MILES (29% OF TOTAL RAIL NETWORK)
- PRIMARILY PROVIDE “FIRST MILE / LAST MILE” SERVICE
- HANDLE 1 OF OUT 5 RAILCARS SHIPPED IN THE US
- SERVE NEARLY 10,000 CUSTOMERS

Short Line or Class III Railroad: Has a length of less than 350 miles and earns less than $35 million revenue annually.

Source: ASLRRA
NC SHORT LINE RAILROAD SERVICES PROVIDED

- Haul freight – 99,438 carloads
- Passenger service – 200,000 passengers
- Special event trains
- Transload facilities
- Track maintenance
- Signal maintenance
- Railcar repair
RAIL FREIGHT IN NORTH CAROLINA

- CHEMICALS
- DRY WALL
- PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
- STEEL
- PLASTICS/RESINS
- LUMBER
- RUBBER
- PAPER PRODUCTS
- BUILDING PRODUCTS
- MACHINERY

- CEMENT
- COAL/FLY ASH
- GRAIN
- AUTOMOBILES
- AGGREGATES
- FERTILIZER
- WOODCHIPS
- ETHANOL
- WOOD CHIPS
- ROAD SALT
NC RAIL USER NETWORK
MAJOR RAIL USERS

Domtar
NUCOR
evergreen packaging
Mountaire Fresh Young Chicken
Weyerhaeuser
Georgia-Pacific
INTERNATIONAL PAPER
Smithfield
Tyson
PotashCorp
Cargill
RAIL FREIGHT IN NORTH CAROLINA
NC SHORT LINE NETWORK

Legend
- Short Lines
- NCDOT-owned Corridors
- Class I Railroads (CSX, NS, NCS)

Dashed corridors are not in service.

22 Short Lines operating in 56 counties
BENEFITS TO THE ECONOMY
SOURCES OF FUNDING

- PRIVATE
- FRA
- NCDOT
- RAIL INDUSTRIAL ACCESS
TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

• MANY LIGHTER DENSITY, RURAL ROUTES LACK THE INDUSTRY STANDARD 286,000 LB CARRYING CAPACITY

• **MAJOR COST**: OLDER BRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS UPGRADING/REBUILT

• OLDER WORKFORCE / TRAINING FOR YOUNGER GENERATION & EMPLOYEES TO GENERATE SPECIFIC SKILLS (ENGINEER, CONDUCTOR, SIGNALMAN, MECHANICAL, DISPATCHER, ELECTRICAL)

• INDUSTRIAL TURNOVER IN RURAL AREAS

• TRUCK SIZE AND WEIGHT THREAT
PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE
WHAT CAN YOU DO???

• SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – NEW INDUSTRY, EXPANSIONS, AND RETENTION

• RECURRING FUNDING FOR FRRCSI FUNDS

• INCREASE FUNDING / INCREASE STATE’S PORTION OF THE 50/50 GRANT MATCH

• EXPANDED COMMUNICATION BETWEEN NCDOT RAIL DIVISION, EDPNC, AND THE SHORT LINE’S

• TRANSLOAD FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

• EXPAND APPLICATION OF FUNDING TO INCLUDE: INVESTMENTS IN STRUCTURES, TECHNOLOGY, PTC COMPLIANCE
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