

October 17, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley  
S. C. Statehouse 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, S C 29201

Honorable Hugh Leatherman  
Gressette Bldg.  
1101 Pendleton Street #111  
Columbia, S C 29201

Robert Hitt, Secretary  
S C Department of Commerce  
1201 Main Street Suite 1600  
Columbia, S C 29201

Re: Intermodal Rail Project / SCSPA Hugh Leatherman Terminal

Dear Governor Haley, Senator Leatherman and Secretary Hitt:

I write in an effort to avoid having any construction related delays push back the scheduled opening of the Hugh Leatherman terminal ("Terminal") and accompanying Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF). I have heard that a December 2019 opening is "etched in stone." Unfortunately, neither the SCSPA nor SCDOT appears to have even begun working on the legally required infrastructure necessary for such an opening date to be realized. In March of this year I wrote Jim Newsome, President and CEO of the SCSPA, and informed him that the Army Corps of Engineers permit for the Terminal incorporated the 2002 MOU requirement that three overpasses "must be in place before the SPA commences container operations." (Copy of letter enclosed.) I urged him to share with us the permitting and design documents showing the SCSPA's progress on those overpasses. He informed me that no such documents existed. If the SCSPA and SCDOT have not even started design on the required overpasses, then it is almost impossible to imagine that they can be completed in time for the Terminal to open in December of 2019. I write to you in hopes that you can spur the SCSPA and SCDOT into action to avoid a delayed opening.

The Rail Settlement of 2013 did provide that the City would consider whether the results of a traffic impact study satisfied it that transportation impacts of the proposed project could be addressed better by some alternative other than the required overpasses. The EIS traffic

component suggests that some crossings will be adversely impacted. While progress has been made on a more comprehensive study, we have yet to see anything in terms of better-performing options. The comprehensive study is likely to be further compromised by the fact that we understand Palmetto Railways may be considering still more project redesigns. Some potential redesigns may actually be advantageous, but study would likely be required to determine that. The end result, however, is clear. No preferable alternatives have been developed and, at this point, the SCSA and SCDOT are fast running out of time to complete the overpasses legally required before the Terminal can open.

Please take whatever steps you can to urge the SCSA and the SCDOT to move forward expeditiously to fulfill their commitments.

Sincerely,



R. Keith Summey  
Mayor

cc: Jim Newsome, SCSA  
Randy Lowell, Counsel for SCSA  
Jeff McWhorter, Palmetto Railways  
Brady Hair, City Attorney