



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

February 7, 2019

Tarek Ravenel
Palmetto Railways
540 East Bay St
Charleston, SC 29403

Re: Docket No. FD 36095, Palmetto Railways – Petition for Exemption – In Berkeley County, South Carolina; Information Request #5

Dear Mr. Ravenel:

Consistent with 40 C.F.R. § 1506.5(a), the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis requests the information listed below to assist in the environmental review for the above-referenced proceeding.

1. Comments submitted on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) request additional information concerning the commodities to be shipped on the proposed rail line and the volume of freight rail traffic due to development of the Camp Hall Commerce Park, which would include Volvo Cars and any additional tenants. Please provide any available updated information (beyond what was provided previously in response to information requests #2 and #3) concerning any reasonably foreseeable freight rail service for tenants that would be located within the Camp Hall Commerce Park or to shippers that would be located along the route of the proposed rail line. Please include any changes to train length and frequency that would result from serving any additional tenants or shippers identified. Please provide us with any marketing plans available for securing additional freight business for the proposed rail line, and any new or updated land use/permitting information, if available.
2. The voluntary mitigation measures set forth in the Draft EA include measures to reduce noise and vibration from rail line operations. Comments submitted on the Draft EA request mitigation to reduce construction noise where the FTA threshold would be exceeded. Please provide information on anticipated Best Management Practices for controlling construction noise.
3. Your response to information request #3 stated that Palmetto Railways intends to construct a small maintenance and office facility, tentatively located between Stations 1190 and 1240. Please confirm that these facilities would be within the right-of-way limits previously provided and that they would not be located in a wetland area. Please also provide any additional information describing the location of these anticipated facilities.

February 7, 2019

Page 2

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please feel free to contact Diana Wood of my staff at 202-245-0302 or by email at Diana.Wood@stb.gov, if you have any questions. I would appreciate two copies of your response, one sent to Diana Wood at 395 E Street SW, Washington DC 20423 or by email at the above email address, and one sent to David Bauer of ICF, our independent third-party consultant, at 9300 Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22031 or by email at David.Bauer@icf.com. We look forward to receiving this information at your earliest convenience, but no later than March 7, 2019.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis

cc: Elizabeth Williams, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers