



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gulfport, Mississippi (May 7, 2021) — The Harrison County Development Commission and the Harrison County Board of Supervisors are pleased to announce that The Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Railroad LLC based in Hernando, Mississippi will begin operation of the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad along the Seaway lead in the Bernard Bayou industrial park. This restored rail line in partnership with the Kansas City Southern railroad will restore service to the tenants in the industrial park that has been missing for over 5 years. The Rock will serve existing business and together with HCDC will work on business recruiting efforts to attract more rail customers to the area.

"The rail has been out for 5 years and we have been working extremely hard for the last 3.5 years to find a partner willing and able to restore the service and add value for our customers. Robert Riley and his team have provided a great solution for us. We are excited to bring this benefit back to all the tenants of the park." Bill Lavers Executive Director HCDC

"We are excited about the huge opportunity in Harrison County. It has taken a lot of work to formulate the agreements and relationships needed to restore this service. Our core customer service values and

determination are going to bring a new level of service to the area. We look forward to working with the existing businesses and helping to recruit new opportunities to Harrison County.” Robert Riley, CEO The Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Railroad LLC

About The Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Railroad LLC

The Mississippi Delta Railroad, MSDR, based in Sumner, MS, operates a total of 85 miles of track in Northwest MS from a connection with the Canadian National Railway at Swan Lake MS. The MSDR has two expansive yards located in Clarksdale MS as well as numerous sidings and auxiliary tracks for car storage. The MSDR's principle commodities include Scrap, Paper, Polystyrene, PVC, Fertilizer, Cotton, Grains and other Agricultural Products.

The MSDR has storage capacity for approximately 2,100 rail cars. Whether it's long term storage of empty cars or Storage in Transit of loaded cars we can handle your needs. We also offer rail car repair for storage customers and to outside third parties. Rock Island Rail can provide Rail Equipment such as Covered Hoppers, Boxcars and Gondolas for online loading for customers. Inquire with your specific needs. The MSDR operates Monday through Friday and as needed.

Locomotives Operated, 7

Standby Switch Engine Service is available to all customers as needed 24/7

Team tracks for transloading are available

Locomotives Operated, 7

Website: www.rockislandrail.com

The Great River Railroad serves the Bolivar County Port at Rosedale MS. Currently Rock Island Rail is working with the Bolivar County Port Commission to restore rail service to the port. The Great River Railroad operates approximately 37 miles of track in Bolivar and Washington Counties in Mississippi. Great River Railroad interchanges with the Columbus & Greenville Railway at Metcalfe MS.

<https://www.portofrosedale.com/>

General Information

Locomotives Operated 3

About Harrison County Development Commission

Harrison County Development Commission is the lead economic development agency for the county and provides growth opportunities for new companies, expanding companies and entrepreneurs by delivering high quality services and sites to local, regional, national and international businesses.

For more information, visit HCDC's website at www.mscoast.org.