

Landrum

SOUTH CAROLINA

100 North Shamrock Avenue Landrum, South Carolina 29356 Phone. 864.457.3000 Fax. 864.457.2702

Norfolk-Southern Corporation
Kontessa Lemons, Property Services Agent
1200 Peachtree St. NE
Atlanta, GA 30309

March 3, 2017

Dear Ms. Lemons:

I am the Mayor of Landrum, a small town in northwest South Carolina. The Downtowns of Landrum and nearby Tryon, North Carolina front your "W Line". Both Landrum and Tryon have a long and rich railroad heritage with the early railroad lines and also with your subsequent ownership.

We are aware that your company has already disposed of the 26 miles of track from Ashville, NC to East Flat Rock, NC in 2014, via a sale to Blue Ridge Southern Railroad. This portion is a portion of the line between our two cities. We have read a summary of your company's "Strategic Plan" announced on December 4, 2015, where you planned to reduce corporate expenses by \$650 million by year 2020 and "to dispose of or downgrade 1,500 miles of secondary lines by year 2020, including 1,000 miles in 2016, as traffic is routed onto higher density lines". Your company press release, dated January 25, 2017, announced that Norfolk-Southern had made big headway in 2016, reducing expenses and projecting further reductions in 2017 towards your goal of \$650 million by 2020.

With the above in mind the purpose of this letter is to advise you that our towns and people have a strong interest in acquiring the "idle" W line from Inman, SC to East Flat Rock, NC, a total of approximately thirty-one miles of track. Since it would involve two states, South Carolina and North Carolina, we would like to set up a meeting in Atlanta or on-site with you as property services agent, Donald Allen, South Carolina property agent, and Tristan Lynn, North Carolina property manager, covering jurisdiction in both states. We, the Mayors of Landrum, SC and Tryon, NC will be present to discuss the possibility of a transfer of property to accomplish your corporate goals as well as ours.

We await your response and are ready to set up a date to meet with you in Atlanta for such a discussion. Please advise both of us via letter, email or via telephone as to your interest and availability for this meeting. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Respectively,

Robert B. Briggs, Mayor

100 N. Shamrock Ave.
Landrum, SC 29356
Phone: 864-540-1216
Bob.Briggs@cityoflandrumsc.com

c/c: Donald Allen, South Carolina Property Agent
c/c: Tristan Lynn, North Carolina Property Manager