



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, N.C. 27699-1501

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

June 12, 2008

Mr. Alexander K. Kummant
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak)
60 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Mr. Kummant:

Governor Michael Easley recently announced our intention to add a third intercity passenger trainset to operate between Raleigh and Charlotte, North Carolina. Norfolk Southern Railway and the North Carolina Railroad (NCRR) were also informed of our intention to implement the new service as defined in the Master Agreement that governs operations on the NCRR. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has allocated sufficient funding from the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program to initiate this service. The Department has sufficient power and equipment reserve to initiate the service, once certain cars are refurbished. It is our objective to implement the new service at the earliest practical opportunity.

The process that will require the most time will be the hiring and qualification of skilled crew members for the operation, and that the typical time required for this aspect may be up to one year. Regardless of the needed time to implement this service, I request that you review and share available options to accelerate the date we could begin this operation.

Attached for your information is Governor Easley's announcement of the new rail service between Raleigh and Charlotte and a resolution adopted by the Board of Transportation supporting the implementation of the new service.

Our Rail Division Director, Patrick B. Simmons, will be the principal contact for this new service opportunity and he can be reached at (919) 733-7245, extension 263. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lyndo Tippett".

Lyndo Tippett

Mr. Alexander K. Kummant

June 12, 2008

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cc: Governor Michael F. Easley
Roberto Canales, P.E., Deputy Secretary for Transit
Patrick B. Simmons, NCDOT Rail Division
Allan Paul, NCDOT Rail Division
William L. Crosbie, Amtrak Chief Operating Officer
Anne Witt, Amtrak Vice President,
Strategic Partnerships and Business Development
Joseph H. McHugh, Amtrak Vice President,
Government Affairs and Corporate Communications

Attachments