



Patriot Rail Corp.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TENNESSEE SOUTHERN TO GET \$2 MILLION IN IMPROVEMENTS
UNDER NEW OWNER PATRIOT RAIL CORP.**

Boca Raton, Fla. -- Short line railroad owner Patriot Rail Corp. said today its Tennessee Southern line (TSRR) line has let contracts worth nearly \$2 million to improve and upgrade operations.

Under a \$1.8 million grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation and a 10 percent match from TSRR, 66,000 cross ties will be replaced, three bridges in Columbia will be rehabilitated and upgrades will be made to TSRR's Mt. Pleasant facility. All work will be completed by June 30.

Patriot Rail Corp. was formed last year by Gary O. Marino, co-founder and former chairman, president and CEO of RailAmerica, Inc. (NYSE:RRA), to acquire short line and regional freight railroads. Tennessee Southern was the first acquisition of the company.

"These upgrades serve our clients and benefit the economy," said Matthew Devine, Patriot Rail executive vice president. "Other capital improvement projects are planned for the next several years."

ANY OTHER IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED????

TSRR, headquartered in Mt. Pleasant, operates in Middle Tennessee and Northwestern Alabama. It interchanges rail traffic with CSX at Natco, Tennessee and with inland barge lines through its port facility at Florence, Alabama where freight is transferred to and from barges on the Tennessee River onto rail and truck. The TSRR principally hauls wood products, fertilizer, steel, slag,

soapstone and LP gas. It currently has a staff of 25 employees and operates a fleet of eight locomotives.