



# NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD C O M P A N Y

## NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD COMPANY News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 1, 2011

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### **Five New Members Join North Carolina Railroad Company's Board of Directors**

**RALEIGH** – The North Carolina Railroad Company (NCR) announced today the election of five new directors to its thirteen member board, with terms officially commencing July 1, 2011. The North Carolina Railroad Company is a railroad corporation that owns and manages the 317 mile rail line between Charlotte and Morehead City. The state of North Carolina is the company's sole voting shareholder.

The directors appointed by Senate President Pro-Tempore Phil Berger (R-Rockingham) are:

- Duane Long of Wake County – Chairman and co-founder, Longistics, in Research Triangle Park, N.C.
- Franklin Rouse of Brunswick County – Owner, Franklin Rouse State Farm Agency in Leland, N.C.

The directors appointed by Speaker of the House Thom Tillis (R-Mecklenburg) are:

- George Rountree III, of New Hanover County – Senior Partner and attorney, Rountree, Losee & Baldwin L.L.P. in Wilmington, N.C.
- Walter D. LaRoque IV of Lenoir County - President of Real Estate Operations, LaRoque Management Group, Inc., East Carolina Development Company, Inc. and the Piedmont Development Company, Kinston, N.C.
- Dr. James Powell of Alamance County - former President, Chief Executive Officer and Director of Laboratory Corp of America

“We are pleased to welcome these new directors and look forward to their leadership and guidance of this valuable asset,” said John Atkins, Chairman of the NCR Board of Directors. “This is an exciting time for railroads – with growth in freight and passenger use and the opportunity to explore commuter rail in our state.”

“We look forward to our new directors joining our existing board in helping to maximize the NCR in a manner that positively impacts job creation and economic growth, safety and freight and passenger mobility,” said Atkins.

The North Carolina Railroad Company owns and manages the 317-mile rail corridor extending from the Morehead City Port to Charlotte. The railroad carries 50-60 freight trains and ten passenger trains daily. NCR is the oldest private company in the state and remains at the forefront of rail improvements and partnership development to promote jobs and rail-served industry across the state. It touches nearly a quarter of the state's economy.

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