



For Immediate Release

**FEDERAL, STATE OFFICIALS CELEBRATE OPENING
OF INDIANA RAIL ROAD'S WHITE RIVER BRIDGE**

Indianapolis, IN, Friday, August 21, 2015 – Indiana Senator Joe Donnelly, Indiana 8th District Congressman Larry Bucshon and Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann headlined a celebration of rail investment and economic development August 20 at the grand opening of Indiana Rail Road's new White River Bridge.

The new steel-girder and pre-stressed concrete bridge, located two miles north of Elnora, IN, represents a \$14 million investment that will support commerce and economic development from Daviess County to the Ohio River for another century.

The new structure will handle trains at 40 mph and rail industry maximum loads of 286,000 pounds, keeping southern Indiana shippers competitive in the global marketplace. The previous pin-connected truss bridge was built in 1899 and, in recent years, had weight restrictions and a speed limit of 10 mph due to its age.

Indiana Rail Road (INRD) serves a variety of southwest Indiana customers through its Odon Transload, a rail-to-truck transfer facility near the Interstate 69-State Road 58 interchange. The Indiana Southern Railroad (ISRR) also uses the bridge to link the north and south segments of its Indianapolis-Evansville route.

The offices of Senator Donnelly, Congressman Bucshon and the Indiana Department of Transportation were instrumental in helping to secure a federal TIGER Grant, which made the bridge replacement financially possible. INRD, ISRR and a host of shippers also made significant capital investments.

"We look at this (bridge) as such a critical part of the growth of southern Indiana," said Donnelly. "You hear a lot of stories about partisan politics but this is a perfect example of everybody working together, making sure our communities thrive and grow."

Indiana Rail Road President and CEO Peter Mills said the new bridge makes possible numerous business development opportunities for the railroad and the region.

"Thanks to our Odon Transload's close proximity to Naval Support Activity (NSA) Crane and Interstate 69, we see a host of economic development opportunities for the Town of Odon and the entire I-69 corridor," he said. "With a combination of superior customer service and aggressive co-marketing of the region with our local partners, we can bring a lot of opportunities for growth."

The Indianapolis-based Indiana Rail Road Company is a privately-held, 500-mile railroad which hauls the equivalent of more than 800,000 truckloads of consumer, industrial and energy products each year.

INRD is active in the community, operating the popular Santa Train providing in-class education and public safety-focused community grants. For more information, visit the Indiana Rail Road online at www.inrd.com or on Twitter and Facebook.

...INRD2015-03...

Media Contact: Eric Powell, (317) 727-7967, eric.powell@inrd.com