



**For Immediate Release**

**INDIANA RAIL ROAD RECIPIENT OF \$7.1 MILLION CRISI GRANT TO REPLACE RAILROAD BRIDGES IN ILLINOIS, PRESERVING RAIL CONNECTIVITY FROM SOUTHERN ILLINOIS TO CENTRAL INDIANA**

INDIANAPOLIS, Thursday, June 20, 2019 - The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration has announced that The Indiana Rail Road Company will be the recipient of \$7,155,000 in grant funds under the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program to replace nine timber railroad bridges in Crawford County, Illinois, with concrete bridges, preserving safe and reliable rail service connecting Southern Illinois to Central Indiana.

"This infrastructure project will ensure that farmers, businesses, utilities and manufacturers in Southern Illinois, Central Indiana and the Indianapolis metropolitan area will continue to benefit from safe and reliable rail service," said Peter Mills, Indiana Rail Road Company President & CEO.

The nine bridges to be replaced are on a rail line that transports ethanol, coal, grain, fertilizer, chemicals, manufactured and food products, as well as international containers to and from Asia. Indiana Rail Road's partners, Marathon Petroleum Company, Crawford County, Illinois, and Canadian National Railway (CN) committed to providing matching funds to support the project.

"These are the partnerships that help rural and urban communities thrive economically," said FRA Administrator Ronald Batory. "The participation of multiple partners demonstrates the importance of these funds and tells us they will be a key asset in improving safety for communities and railroads around the country."

The Indiana Rail Road received support from Sens. Durbin (D-IL) and Duckworth (D-IL), Reps. Shimkus (R-IL) and Bucshon (R-IN), and former Sen. Donnelly (D-IN), as well as numerous other state and local officials in Illinois and Indiana.

"These investments in intercity passenger and freight rail will benefit surrounding communities, make grade crossings safer and improve service reliability," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

The Indianapolis-based Indiana Rail Road Company is a privately-held, 250-mile railroad based in Indianapolis. The company hauls the equivalent of more than 600,000 truckloads of consumer, industrial and energy products each year. For more information, visit The Indiana Rail Road online at [www.inrd.com](http://www.inrd.com) or on Twitter and Facebook.

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