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WISCONSIN & SOUTHERN RAILROAD CO.



PRESS RELEASE

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Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Offers Low Cost Alternative in Elkhart Lake

The Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Co., based in Milwaukee, WI, will soon be offering a low cost alternative to conventional means of freight shipping by offering freight rail service to a local business in Elkhart Lake, WI. Beginning in early July, the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Co. (WSOR) will begin shipping railcars of aggregate (sand/gravel mix) blocks from a transload site in Elkhart Lake, WI to Galveston, TX where the blocks will be used to shore up Gulf Coast Shorelines recently destroyed from hurricanes. This long-term project will also help to prevent further deterioration to the Gulf Coast shoreline, by making the Texas shorelines stronger and able to withstand hurricane forces.

Working collaboratively with a reputable aggregate producer and local barge & rail companies, transportation managers utilized a multi-modal approach that results in a cost-effective way to move aggregate from Eastern Wisconsin to the far southern tip of Texas – nearly 1,500 miles in distance. As a transportation provider, it is WSOR's goal to meet the transit needs of Wisconsin businesses by providing reliable service with affordable rates and the least amount of handling.

Rail shipping is one of the most environmentally-friendly forms of transportation around, getting 460 miles per gallon of diesel fuel while hauling just one ton of freight (Source: AAR). *"Utilizing rail is very economical as one rail car can haul the same amount of aggregate as can four semi trucks, meaning rail preserves our highway systems for the use and enjoyment of future generations"*, stated James Lombard, Vice President of Marketing for Wisconsin & Southern. *"This is a key efficiency that enables Sheboygan County businesses to haul their product to local & national markets on a timely basis and to remain competitive in today's global economy"*, he added.

The rail line servicing Elkhart Lake was purchased by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in 2005 and is currently leased by the WSOR. The WSOR currently provides bi-weekly service to local industries along the rail line between Fredonia and Kiel, WI. The WSOR is a regional railroad operating 700 miles of track throughout south central Wisconsin and northeastern Illinois. The WSOR has terminal offices in Madison, Janesville & Horicon and employs over 200 people.

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