April 18, 2016

For more information, please call:
Dr. Dwight Morris, Chairman
Board of Directors
Greater Area Smithfield-Selma Chamber of Commerce

STATEMENT

Smithfield, North Carolina--As the dialogue over the CSX intermodal terminal has evolved, the Smithfield-Selma Chamber has heard from thousands of project supporters, as well as a vocal group of project opponents. However, due to the fervor developing around the project, misinformation has begun to circulate.

As members of this community we shared similar concerns, so the Chamber reached out to learn more about the project and how it would impact the people of Johnston County. What we found is this – CSX's claims about economic development and environmental benefits, from high paying jobs to environmentally responsible terminals, are proven to be true. The community around the Northwest Ohio intermodal terminal, which CCX is modeled after, experienced these benefits first-hand. According to the Wood County Economic Development Commission, CSX is a strong corporate partner that worked closely with the community throughout the process. The terminal has created well-paying jobs and stimulated economic development in the area. CSX is also an award-winning leader in environmental practices. The terminal uses cutting-edge technology with equipment that is ultra-efficient and near silent. In fact, the Ohio EPA recently recognized CSX's NW Ohio terminal for environmental excellence.

With a few quick phone calls, the Chamber was able to learn about the impact and proven benefits of the terminal first-hand. We owe it to ourselves to carefully consider facts from project experts and engage in an open and civil dialogue about the project.

Dwight Morris, chairman of the Smithfield-Selma Board of Directors, is available to discuss the project via phone at 919-631-1011.

For more information, please visit www.smithfieldselma.com.