



**SOUTHERN  
CONCRETE  
MATERIALS**

The Foundation of Our Community

October 19, 2021

Amit Bose, Acting Administrator  
Federal Railroad Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W38-212  
Washington, DC 20590

*RE: FY21 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program submitted by the Blue Ridge Southern Railroad*

Dear Administrator Bose:

On behalf of Southern Concrete Materials, I write today in favor for the Blue Ridge Southern Railroad's (BLU) FY 21 CRISI grant application entitled *Blue Ridge Short Line Safety & Capacity Expansion Project*.

We are a customer on the BLU in Waynesville, NC. They bring us inbound minerals allowing for us serve the Asheville with our high-quality ready-mix concrete. Our products also include precast concrete, construction materials, concrete blocks and all the related materials our customers need to successfully complete a job.

We greatly appreciate the BLU's efforts with this CRISI application to provide our company more fluid, efficient service by reducing inefficiencies and freeing up space in their Canton yard by bringing two auxiliary tracks back into service for spot cars closer to facility. These tracks were put out of service before the BLU started operations in 2014.

We ask you to select this important project in this current round of funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Holt  
VP/Central Region Manager