

NEWS

OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Rails Projects Mean 100's of Jobs ORDC Commissioners Also Get "Action Plan" Proposal

(Columbus) -- Businesses in Seneca and Stark Counties could create a total of almost 240 jobs and take a lot of truck traffic off of local highways with rail improvement projects recommended by the staff of the Ohio Rail Development Commission.

ORDC Commissioners will also discuss a proposed Action Plan for 2008.

The Commission meeting is:

Wednesday
January 16, 2007
10:00 A-M
Vern Riffe Center
31st Floor
Columbus, Ohio

Commissioners will be asked to approve rail spur projects for MGQ (Maple Grove Quarry) Inc near Millersburg in Seneca County and for Case Farms Feed Mill near Massillon.

The MGQ (Maple Grove Quarry) project will help build 4,200 feet of new track for more efficient movement of rail cars for loading and unloading. Company officials say the added track will allow them to expand business by increasing car-loadings by 750 to 4,000 cars. The expanded business would also create 6 to 20 new jobs.

The Case Farms rail project would involve replacement of 1,750 feet of old track with new track and track bed (ballast & ties). Company officials say this would allow them to process more feed for their poultry operations, enabling 20 new jobs at the Case Farms Feed Mill and another 200 new jobs at their processing plant. The rail improvement would also open up another 159 to 350 acres of land for future development.

(The Ohio Rail Development Commission is an independent agency operating within the Ohio Department of Transportation. ORDC is responsible for economic development through the improvement and expansion of passenger and freight rail service, railroad grade crossing safety and rail travel & tourism issues. For more information about what ORDC does for Ohio, visit our website at <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/ohiorail/>)