LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. Box 117 Columbia, LA 71418 Phone: 318-649-0977 Fax: 318-649-0979 risern@legis.la.gov



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Commerce

Natural Resources and Environment

NEIL RISER State Representative ~ District 20

December 5, 2025

La. Economic Development P.O. Box 94185 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Re: Columbia Port Commission FastSite Program application

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing on behalf of Columbia Port Commission, P.O. Box 367, Columbia, LA 71418 and their application to Louisiana Economic Development (LED) FastSite Program. This funding will assist the Columbia Port Commission to close a funding gap for construction of their industrial rail spur. This rail spur is essential to this project.

I understand that the Columbia Port Commission has ben awarded \$5 million from LaDOTD's Port Priority Program and \$1 million from the Delta Regional Authority, all designated for rail construction. However, due to delays in Priority 5 Capital Outlay funds this project is in jeopardy of moving forward. This program will assist in moving the project forward. Completion of the rail spur is critical to serving existing tenants—Louisiana Green Fuels, Terral River Service, and regional agricultural and timber industries and to strengthening the Port's ability to attract new industry requiring certified, rail-served sites.

Please note that I fully support this application for assistance thru LED FastSite. I certainly feel that this project is worthy of approval.

Sincerely

Neil Riser State Senator District 32

nr:acm

cc: Port of Columbia, Greg Richardson Director