

Port Bienville Study Objective:

Determine the feasibility of constructing a new rail line from Port Bienville to the Norfolk Southern Railroad in Nicholson, MS

- **Identify customer needs for rail transportation**
- **Identify potential new customers**
- **Develop alternative rail corridors**
- **Summarize potential environmental impacts of alternatives**
- **Develop preliminary cost estimates for alternatives**
- **Identify potential funding sources**



Economic Drivers: Rail Transportation in Hancock and Pearl River Counties

- **Total value of commodities shipped by rail: \$1 billion**
- **543,000 carload tons per year**
- **Goods are primarily polymers and plastics**
- **70% of plastic-related freight moves through Port Bienville short line railroad**
- **Service impacts from hurricanes and congestion from single Class 1 rail carrier**
- **Dual Class 1 rail service for existing and potential customers**

