

RECEIVED MAY 06 2014

May 2, 2014

Mr. Bernard Silverman
Board Chair
Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority
dba The Coast RTA
1418 Third Avenue
Conway, South Carolina 29526

RE: Coast RTA High-Risk Status

Dear Mr. Silverman:

I was informed that the enclosed letter purportedly rescinding Coast RTA's status as a "High-Risk Agency" was circulated to Coast RTA Board members and others attending the Coast RTA Board meeting on April 30, 2014. Please know that I have been informed that this letter was neither signed by or for Mr. Hart Baker, nor did it originate from the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). Identification as a High-Risk Agency, as initially communicated by letter dated August 23, 2011, has not been rescinded and the associated special conditions remain in place.

SCDOT and our Office of Public Transit remain committed to assisting Coast RTA during the current transition in leadership, and in providing guidance in ensuring the long-term sustainability of Coast RTA operations. I personally look forward to working with you and your fellow Board members, as well as Ms. Norton-Dew and the staff of Coast RTA, in your efforts.

Sincerely,



Doug Frate
Director of Intermodal and Freight Programs

DWF:mbw

Enclosure

cc: Julie A. Norton-Dew, Interim General Manager, Coast RTA
The Honorable Mike Wooten, SCDOT Commissioner, Seventh Congressional District
ec: Mark Lester, Acting Deputy Secretary for Intermodal Planning, SCDOT
Johnny Mmanuikwe, Assistant Director, Office of Public Transit, SCDOT
Diane Lackey, Statewide Program Manager, Office of Public Transit, SCDOT

File:OPT





South Carolina
Department of Transportation
Intermodal and Freight Programs

Deputy Secretary
Hart Baker
(803) 737-1719 • Fax (803) 737-2038

Office of Public Transit
Doug Frate, Director
(803) 737-1436 • Fax (803) 737-0145

Office of Railroads
Roy Tolson, Director
(803) 737-6218 • Fax (803) 737-0145

October 11, 2011

RECEIVED OCT 12 2011

Mr. Myers Rollins, Jr., CEO/General Manager
Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority
dba Coast RTA
1418 Third Avenue
Conway, South Carolina 29526

Dear Mr. Rollins:

In a letter dated August 23, 2011, to Mr. Ivory Wilson, we identified the Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority as a "High Risk Agency" as defined by the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Parts 18.12 and 19.14. Upon receipt of our letter, you requested a meeting to discuss the "High Risk" determination and the strained relations between Coast RTA and some members of SCDOT staff. During our meeting on September 6, 2011 you and members of your Board and staff described numerous incidents of unprofessional conduct by two SCDOT staff during the conduct of a compliance and oversight review. At the conclusion of our meeting, I apologized for my staffs conduct and for signing a letter prepared by my staff that I had not read. I have rescinded the letter and removed the Waccamaw Regional Transportation Authority's designation as a "High Risk Agency" I have met with my staff and reiterated we are public servants and we want to serve Coast in that capacity and with that attitude. In the coming weeks you will be notified of staffing changes including a new Economic Development Manager for your agency.

Sincerely,


Hart Baker
Deputy Secretary

FHB/sdb

cc: Yvette G. Taylor, Regional Administrator, FTA
Doug Frate, Director, Office of Public Transit
Ivory Wilson; Coast RTA, Board Chair
Bernard Silverman, Coast RTA, Board Vice Chair

