Freight Rail Economic Development

This presentation will showcase a recent study completed for Minnesota DOT. It will highlight findings from a 10 State Peer Review which discussed best practices in freight rail development programs. Roles for State Economic Development Agencies and Rail Development Authorities will be discussed. Challenges and opportunities found in Minnesota along with recommendations to improve short line development will be noted.

Speaker Bio:

Libby Ogard has 25 years railroad and trucking experience. She began her career at Burlington Northern and held positions with increasing responsibilities in transportation, marketing and sales across a broad range of commodity groups. At Conrail Ms. Ogard managed the Western Region Intermodal business unit and had account responsibility for International, domestic and refrigerated asset owners. In 1993 Ms. Ogard was recruited to join Schneider National, where she complete the design of the truckrail network and launched the Optimodal division. At Schneider National as an Account General Manager she had responsibility for retail accounts such as Home Depot, Walgreens, Target, Family Dollar and others. Today Ms. Ogard is a consultant focusing on freight transportation and facility planning work.