

Tennessee Agriculture and Forestry

Agricultural
Air Quality Task Force
April 22, 2015





“My goal is for Tennessee to be number one in the Southeast in the growth and development of agriculture and forestry.”



- Gov. Bill Haslam, Dec. 3, 2012



Tennessee Agriculture and Forestry

\$66.3 billion economic impact
13.3% of the state's economy
338,000 jobs
\$4.1 billion in farm revenues





GOVERNOR'S RURAL CHALLENGE

A 10-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Increasing Rural Tennessee's Capacity to Produce

A Report to Governor Bill Haslam / December 2013

2014 Progress Report

- Increase Ag Involvement in the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and local chambers
- UT develops “Ag Awareness” educational toolbox
- Protect rail and river transportation infrastructure
- Rural Broadband Study, USDA announced \$31 million to TN.
- Regulatory Improvement based on sound science
- Continue Port of Cates Landing Development
- Protect Ag’s priority use of WATER
- “Farm to Table” barriers, grape industry initiative
- Tomato Initiative, other specialty crops, HEMP(?)
- “Grow the Herd”, Beef Heifer Development Project
- Increase Market Development Efforts, “Pick TN” Products

2014 Progress Report Continued

- Governor Haslam announces Rural Economic Development a major priority of second term
- Rural enterprise innovation, AgLaunch is announced
- Promote “Drive to 55” in rural Tennessee
- Support 4-H and FFA youth development
 - Two new regional positions for FFA
 - West TN Youth Leadership Center – Loan Oak Farm
 - UT reorganizes youth leadership programs
- Revise and review Ag and Natural Resources curriculum in Higher Education



“we are convinced that through the adoption of this plan, we can help maximize our capacity to produce and generate even greater returns for farmers, agribusinesses and rural communities.”

- Executive Committee



Tennessee Rural Opportunities Roundtable

Dandridge, Tennessee

April 15, 2014



TDFI
Tennessee
Department of
Financial Institutions



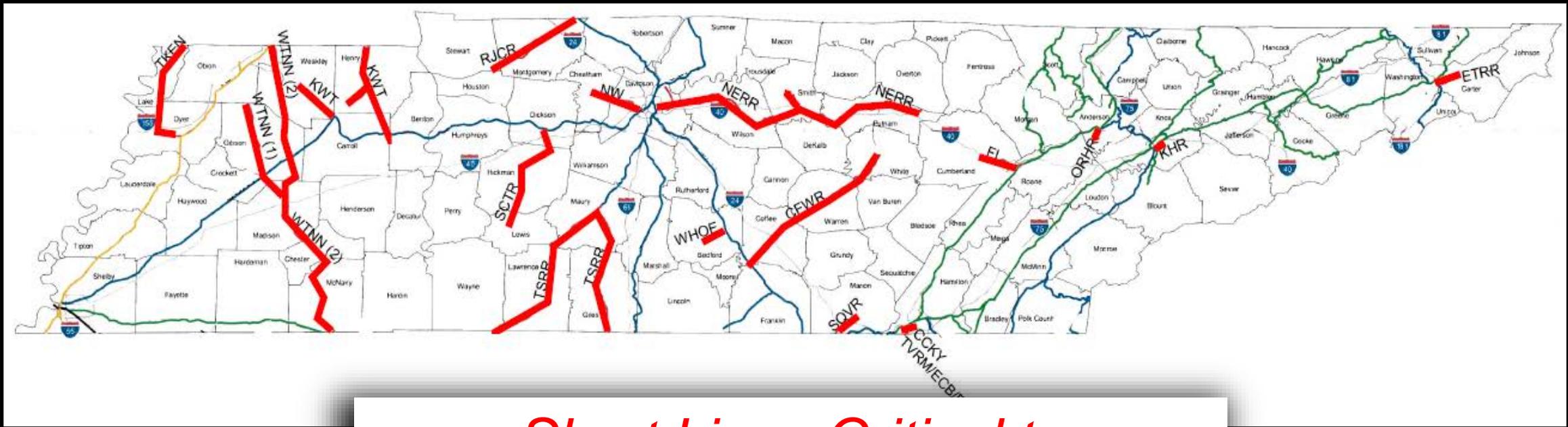
Cobb Vantress Burrville, TN

- \$24 million
- 150 Employees



Port of Cates Landing





*Short Lines Critical to
Rural Tennessee*





Launch
Tennessee



Ag Launch

- Support, encourage ag and forestry innovation and entrepreneurship
- TDA to provide direction and coordination
- Partner with Launch TN, Regional Accelerators, UTIA, Memphis Bioworks and others

Why drive to 55?

- A minimum of 55% of Tennessee jobs will require some form of postsecondary education by 2025
- Currently, in Tennessee, 32% of those between the ages of 25 and 64 hold at least a two-year degree
- If we continue on our current trajectory, we will reach 39% by 2025, which means we will fall 16 percentage points short of our goal
- To reach 55%, we need 494K additional degrees of which technical certificates and two-year degrees are a key part



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Thank You

