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Ohio company eyes stimulus money for train factory

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By MATT LEINGANG, The Associated Press

1:51 PM Thursday, September 10, 2009

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COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio transportation officials have agreed to support a private company's bid to make passenger trains that would run on President Barack Obama's proposed high-speed rail network.

U.S. Railcar LLC intends to build a \$14 million factory in suburban Columbus that would make diesel-fueled passenger cars and employ about 160 people.

The company would apply for \$8.7 million in federal stimulus money to build the plant. The state is offering \$3.6 million in economic assistance, and the company says it has secured an additional \$2.1 million in private investments.

The Ohio Rail Development Commission agreed Thursday to sponsor the company's stimulus application, which is due Tuesday.

The U.S. Department of Transportation expects to make a decision in January.

September 10, 2009 05:49 PM EDT

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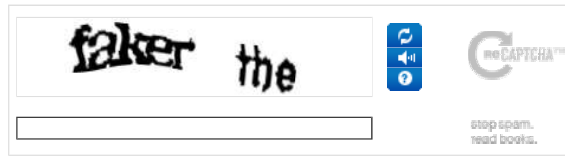
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