

SOUTHWEST INDIANA WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (WIRED)

INLAND INTERMODAL FEASIBILITY STUDY-2009

The Tioga Group evaluated the feasibility of an intermodal facility and co-located industrial park in Southwest Indiana. WIRED is the trade name for a regional workforce and economic development initiative sponsored by a nine-county region in Southwest Indiana.

As conceived, the prospective development would offer value-added logistics and transportation services and would strengthen the attractiveness of the Southwest Indiana region as a commercial center. The objective of the proposed project is to create new employment opportunities for the region by attracting logistics-based businesses which gain competitive advantage from locating adjacent to the intermodal facility.

Southwest Indiana Logistics Center



The following tasks were completed in conducting the feasibility study:

- Research of the local intermodal market
- Assessment of potential rail carriers
- Evaluation of the industrial property market and estimate of building absorption
- Development of site parameters; evaluation and prioritization of potential sites
- Conceptual design of the industrial park and rail intermodal facility
- Preliminary engineering and cost estimate
- Econometric modeling to estimate economic impact and job creation
- Preparation of project promotional brochure and stakeholder presentations
- Evaluation of several major developers' interest in participating in the project
- Development of financing and major tasks necessary to advance the project

Tioga's analysis showed the project to be feasible subject to a requirement for an aggressive development role on the part of the community. Tioga worked to develop a consensus for moving the project forward among the most significant public and private stakeholders and provided WIRED with the analysis and promotional tools necessary to do so.