

From: [Miller, Paula \(FAA\)](#)
To: [Blodgett, Kenneth](#)
Cc: [Helvey, Michael \(FAA\)](#); [Gauch, Mark E \(FAA\)](#); [Estevez, Natking \(FAA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Surface Transportation Board, Preliminary Environmental Consultation – Iowa Falls Railroad, Hardin County, Iowa
Date: Friday, February 19, 2021 3:24:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Surface Transportn Brd Preliminary Enviro Consultation_Miniace\(19FEB2021\).pdf](#)

Good afternoon Mr. Blodgett,

The FAA's Air Traffic Organization (ATO) is in receipt of the attached letter from Danielle Gosselin, Acting Director,

Office of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, regarding construction and operation of a new rail line near Iowa Falls, in Hardin County, Iowa.

Since FAA's ATO has jurisdiction over air traffic matters, we are curious to know if this project involves any use of airspace that would necessitate ATO's involvement either formally, as a cooperating agency per NEPA's implementing regulations at 40 CFR section 1508.5, or informally as a consulting agency. For example, if this project would involve the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV, aka drones), the ATO would be involved in that aspect of the project in some capacity.

If there is no use of airspace envisioned or planned for this project, but you believe another FAA line of business should be involved (i.e., Airports, due to the rail lines' proximity to an airport) please let us know.

Kind regards,
 Paula Miller

Paula M. Miller, JD, EDS
ATO, MSS, AJV-D21 Regs & Policy Group
800 Independence Ave., SW, Rm 422
Washington, DC 20591
PF: 202-267-7378
FX: 202-267-5809
Email: paula.miller@faa.gov



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From: Helvey, Michael (FAA) <michael.helvey@faa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 2:04 PM
To: Miller, Paula (FAA) <Paula.Miller@faa.gov>
Subject: FW: Surface Transportation Board, Preliminary Environmental Consultation – Iowa Falls Railroad, Hardin County, Iowa

Paula,
Here you go!

Thanks,
Mike

From: 9-AJO-AWA-OEGroup (FAA) <OEGroup@faa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 10:39 AM
To: Helvey, Michael (FAA) <michael.helvey@faa.gov>
Subject: FW: Surface Transportation Board, Preliminary Environmental Consultation – Iowa Falls Railroad, Hardin County, Iowa

Hi, Mike,

I am unsure how to direct this email. They are requesting for comments from what I read from the attached letter, but I did see any key words that I would usually see such as near an Airport, height, or any mention of aerial. They mention Environment review, would this go to another group?

Thank you,

The Obstruction Evaluation (OE) Group

Federal Aviation Administration
OEGroup@faa.gov

From: Johnson, Kevyn K <kkjohnson@burnsmcd.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:38 PM
To: 9-AJO-AWA-OEGroup (FAA) <OEGroup@faa.gov>
Cc: Thornhill, Steve <sthornh@burnsmcd.com>
Subject: Surface Transportation Board, Preliminary Environmental Consultation – Iowa Falls Railroad, Hardin County, Iowa

The Federal Surface Transportation Board is initiating Environmental Consultation as part of its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review of a proposed new rail line in Hardin County, Iowa. The attached consultation letter and project area map provide more details on the Project and how to provide your comments. If you have questions on this Project, contact information is provided in the attached letter or you may reply to this email.

If you would like a hard copy of the attachments or other information on the Project, please let me know.

Thank you for your assistance.

Kevyn K. Johnson \ Burns & McDonnell
Assistant Environmental Scientist \ Environmental Services
O 816-652-2582 \ M 918-706-5255
kkjohnson@burnsmcd.com \ burnsmcd.com
9450 Ward Parkway \ Kansas City, MO 64114