



EI-32141

Asa Hutchinson
Governor
Stacy Hurst
Secretary

August 16, 2022

Mr. Joshua Wayland
Surface Transportation Board
Environmental Filing, Docket No. FD 36500
c/o VHB
940 Main Campus Dr., Suite 500
Raleigh, NC 27606

RE: Benton and Polk Counties: Gentry and Mena
Section 106 Review: FRA
Proposed Undertaking: Docket No. 36500, Canadian Pacific Railway Limited, et al. – Control of – Kansas City Southern, et al.; Issuance of Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Public Comment Period and Meetings
AHPP Tracking Number: 109127.01

Dear Mr. Wayland:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) reviewed the submission for the above-referenced project and issuance of a draft environmental impact statement. The proposed undertaking entails the merger of Canadian Pacific Railroad with Kansas City Southern, which would create the first railroad to connect Canada, the United States, and Mexico. In reference to Arkansas, two locations have been proposed for capital improvements in Benton and Polk Counties; the first location is located north of Gentry in Section 24 and 25, Township 19 North, Range 33 West and the second location is located northeast of Mena in Section 5, Township 2 South, Range 30 West.

The AHPP initially responded to the proposed project on December 14, 2021 (AHPP Tracking Number 109127). No previously recorded archeological sites were record within either area of potential effect (APE) and the likelihood of finding intact historic properties is small as the APE's are highly disturbed from previous railroad construction.

Based on the provided information, the AHPP still concurs that no historic properties should be affected by this undertaking and that the capital improvement work should be able to proceed. In the event of a post-review discovery of historic properties within the area of potential effects, please contact the AHPP and other consulting parties in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.13(b)(3).

Tribes that have expressed an interest in these areas include the Caddo Nation, the Cherokee Nation, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Osage Nation, the Quapaw Nation, the Shawnee Tribe, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians. We recommend consultation in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(2).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this undertaking. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, call Kathryn Bryles at 501-324-9784 or email kathryn.bryles@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

**Kathryn
Bryles**

 Digitally signed by
Kathryn Bryles
Date: 2022.08.16
14:37:27 -05'00'

for
Scott Kaufman
Director, AHPP

cc: Dr. Melissa Zabecki, Arkansas Archeological Survey