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January 10, 2022

Danielle Gosselin, Acting Director
Attention: Adam Assenza
Surface Transportation Board, Office of Environmental Analysis
Washington, DC 20423

Subject: Docket No. FD 36501 – Union Pacific Railroad Company –
Construction and Operation Exemption – In Maricopa County, Arizona

Dear Director Gosselin,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated December 10, 2021, regarding Docket No. FD 36501, the Union Pacific Railroad Company proposed Pecos industrial Rail Access and Train Extension Project, to construct and operate approximately six miles of new rail line in Maricopa County, Arizona. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office appreciates the Surface Transportation Board's solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to the earlier identifiable cultural groups in Arizona. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of our ancestral sites, and we consider the prehistoric archaeological sites of our ancestors to be Traditional Cultural Properties. We request consultation on any proposal that has the potential to adversely affect prehistoric cultural resources in Arizona.

So if the cultural resources survey of the area of potential effect identifies prehistoric sites that cannot be avoided by project activities, we request continuing consultation on this proposal including being provided with copies of the draft environmental assessment and any proposed treatment plans for review and comment.

In addition, we support project design features that if any cultural features or deposits are encountered during project activities, these activities will be discontinued in the immediate area of the remains, and the State Historic Preservation Office will be consulted to evaluate their nature and significance, and if any Native American human remains or funerary objects are discovered during construction they shall be immediately reported as required by law. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Stewart B. Koyiyumptewa, Project Manager/THPO
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Arizona State Historic Preservation Office