



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

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TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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January 7, 2026

Danielle Gosselin, Director
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
RE: Docket No. FD 36501
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Docket No. FD 36501, Surface Transportation Board (STB) Directs Union Pacific Railroad Company to Correct Deficiencies in Rail Line Construction in Arizona, Fifth Revised Draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Dear Director Gosselin,

The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Historic Preservation Office (GRIC-THPO) received the Fifth Revised Draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on November 26, 2025 for review and comment. The Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) has filed a petition with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) requesting to construct and operate a 6-mile long rail line, the Pecos Industrial Rail Access and Train Extension (PIRATE), east and south of the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona.

The GRIC-THPO has reviewed the Fifth Revised Draft MOA and there is one item we would like double-checked, and corrected if necessary. On the title page, should the UPRR be added into the "Agreement Between the Surface Transportation Board and the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer" statement (Lines 1, 2, and 3)? The STB and AZSHPO are signatories and the UPRR is an invited signatory. Are invited signatories listed in the "agreement between" statement? Please advise. The GRIC-THPO accepts the MOA as an adequate Section 106 agreement document. We have no further comments at this time for the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

The GRIC-THPO expresses thanks to the Board for allowing us the privilege to meaningfully comment and participate in the consultation process for this UPRR undertaking. We will continue to participate in the consultation process of this undertaking. The proposed project area is within the ancestral lands of the Four Southern Tribes (Gila River Indian Community; Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community; Ak-Chin Indian Community and the Tohono O'Odham Nation).

Thank you for consulting with the GRIC-THPO about this undertaking. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our office at 520-562-7162.

Respectfully,

Reylynne Williams
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Gila River Indian Community