



Six Counties Rail Project
Jeffrey Irwin to: Terry Morgart

02/03/2015 04:23 PM

Terry Morgart,

Thank you for sharing some time with me last year in consultation regarding the Six Counties Rail Project. After consulting with a number of folks to invite participation, we are ready to move forward with the development of a Programmatic Agreement.

I've attached a Draft PA with attachments. This document addresses a full range of consultation, inventory, evaluation and mitigation issues. See below for a list of PA highlights.

I am sending this to all signatories and concurring parties and I've listed your tribe as one of the latter. I understand from your previous comments that the Hopi will likely defer to the SHPO and other tribes for matters involving archaeology, but that you would like to receive copies of survey, testing and mitigation plans for review and comment. Additionally, you would like to receive copies of technical reports. And in the event of an inadvertent discovery, you would like to be notified. Please let me know if any of this is incorrect and please take a look at this draft agreement and share any comments, concerns or edits that you have.

Feel free to contact me via email or phone.

Thank you for your time!

Best regards,

- Establishes STB as primary coordinator of consultation
- Identifies Signatories and Concurring Parties
- Ensures applicant will support survey and evaluations and mitigation planning prior to construction
- Establishes existing inventory and provides process for additional inventory, as required
- Provides for a records search to update the existing inventory with any recently identified historic properties in the APE
- Provides for evaluation of properties not in the existing inventory
- Ensures process for review and comment on survey, testing, mitigation plans by all signatories and concurring parties
- Provides for consideration of archaeological connection to the Old Spanish Trail at a particular site within the right-of-way (42SV2738)
- Calls for effect determinations as construction plans are refined and finalized
- Establishes avoidance as a preferred approach to historic properties but allows for mitigation
- Ensures a public component of any mitigation
- Identifies standards for professionals executing stipulation requirements and documentation standards for mitigation
- Calls for protective measures during construction and notes potential monitoring opportunities
- Notes permits required for archaeological work on federal and state land
- Establishes curation standards for archaeological collections
- Includes confidentiality provision for archaeological data and information sensitive to tribes
- Includes procedures for inadvertent discovery of archaeological materials and human remains or cultural items



DRAFT SCAOG PA 2-3-15.docxDRAFT SCAOG PA Attachments A-E.pdf

Jeff Irwin
Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423
(202) 245-0299