

ED-1087
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

October 31, 2008

Allyson Brooks, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Officer
Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 48343
Olympia, WA 98504-8343

Re: Log Number 041007-02-STB; STB Finance Docket No. 34936,
Northern Columbia Basin Railroad Project in Moses Lake,
Washington; Revised Draft Cultural Resources Discipline Report

Dear Dr. Brooks:

As you know, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the Surface Transportation Board (Board) are serving as co-lead agencies for the environmental review of a proposed rail line construction project called the Northern Columbia Basin Railroad Project. The project is located in the Moses Lake area of Grant County, Washington.

In response to Matthew Sterner's letter dated August 20, 2008, we are submitting a revised Draft Cultural Resources Discipline Report for your review and comment. We are also submitting the electronic data for the historic property inventory forms. As stated in my July 30, 2008 letter to your office, the Board will make its final determination of whether the proposed rail project would have any effect on historic resources following receipt of comments from participating federally-recognized tribes and your office.

Comments may be sent to:

Section of Environment Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Christa Dean, Attorney
395 E Street, SW, Room 1108
Washington, DC 20423
christa.dean@stb.dot.gov

The WSDOT contact for this proposed project is Elizabeth Phinney, Rail Environmental Manager, at (360) 705-7902 or phinnee@wsdot.wa.gov. The Board contact for this proposed project is Christa Dean, Attorney and Project Manager, at (202) 245-0299

or christa.dean@stb.dot.gov. If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this proceeding, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Phinney or Christa Dean.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Victoria" and last name "Rutson" clearly distinguishable.

Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure: Revised Draft Cultural Resources Discipline Report

cc: Elizabeth Phinney, WSDOT Rail