



EO-1318

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

October 21, 2009

Mr. Douglas C. McLearen
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building, Second Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0093

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35116, R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Pennsylvania Lines, Inc.—Construction and Operation Exemption—in Clearfield County, PA; PHMC ER No. 2008-1481-042 Beech Creek Railroad Reactivation Project

Dear Mr. McLearen:

The Surface Transportation Board requests a finding of No Adverse Effect for the above referenced project's preferred alternative. If approved, the proposed project would put rails back on existing rail beds along the preferred alternative which begins at a connection with the existing railroad, operated by R.J. Corman Railroad Company, at or near Wallacetown/Philipsburg, connects with the Beech Creek Railroad bed in Winburne and continues on to Gorton along the Beech Creek rail bed.

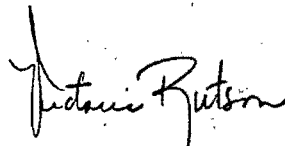
The existing rail bed of both the Philipsburg Industrial Track and the Beech Creek Railroad remains intact. The reactivation project would place rails back on the existing rail bed. The bridges would remain intact; according to a recent inspection, they are able to carry the anticipated loads with only minor repairs. No construction is anticipated outside of the existing cut-and-fill of the existing rail bed. No sidings are planned. As a result, the Surface Transportation Board requests a finding of No Adverse Effect for the railroad reactivation.

We request your response by November 21, 2009 so that we can incorporate your response into the Draft EIS, as appropriate. Please send your comments to:

Mr. Kevin Starner
Skelly and Loy, Inc.
449 Eisenhower Boulevard, Suite 300
Harrisburg, PA 17111

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Starner, Project Manager for Skelly and Loy, at 717-232-0593, or Danielle Gosselin, SEA Project Manager, at 202-245-0300. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and "R".

Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis