



Call with ACHP on Tongue River

Catherine Nadals to: ngabriel

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Vicki Rutson, Theodore Hunt, Evelyn Kitay, "Starzak, Richard",
Cc: Kenneth Blodgett, Danielle Gosselin, Reid Nelson, wdancingfeather,
swilmoth, vhauser, "Summerville, Alan"

Hi Najah,

I am writing you regarding your request for a call between the STB, MT SHPO and Advisory Council to discuss the Tongue River Railroad Construction (TRRC) Project. Monday, October 28th before 3 PM would work best for us here at the Board. Rick Starzak with ICF International will be contacting you and the MT SHPO regarding a specific time. If the 28th does not work for you, let me know.

In preparation for the call, I thought it would be helpful to provide you with a short synopsis of our Section 106 consultation efforts to date. To begin, I have attached the original letter that the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) sent to the Advisory Council regarding the TRRC Project. The letter, dated December 10, 2012, outlines the proposed undertaking and requests the participation of the Advisory Council in the Section 106 review process. We sent a similar letter to the Montana SHPO on October 22, 2012. Since then, we have remained in regular contact with the SHPO regarding the project.

In January 2013, OEA sent letters to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, twenty other federally recognized tribes and nine additional parties requesting their participation in the NEPA and Section 106 processes. We then convened a Section 106 meeting April 16-18, 2013 in Lame Deer, MT on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. This summer, 13 tribes participated in the survey work that was performed along each of the alternatives under consideration by the Board (where access was granted).

Each month we hold a call for consulting parties. The monthly calls have worked very well in keeping all the consulting parties informed as we continue our environmental and historic reviews. In addition, the Tongue River Railroad website includes an entire page dedicated to [historic preservation issues](#) and links to important correspondence and documents. Both the calls and web site have proven to be important vehicles for our ongoing consultation efforts.

I hope the above summary is helpful. Please let me know if there is any other information that I should provide to you prior to our call.

All the best,

-Cathy

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