

Re: PMRE 2011 Archaeological Survey Report

Catherine Glidden

to:

Hotchkinb

02/10/2012 05:55 PM

Cc:

Elizabeth.Grover, LindamoodB, shina.duvall, Vicki Rutson

Hide Details

From: Catherine Glidden/STB

EO-1850

CG; FD 35095

To: Hotchkinb@akrr.com

Cc: Elizabeth.Grover@hdrinc.com, LindamoodB@akrr.com, shina.duvall@alaska.gov, Vicki Rutson/STB@STB

Barbara,

I will be out of the office until Tuesday of next week. However, if you want to start editing the document pursuant to my comments to date, please feel free to do so. Many of the grammatical and format issues could be done quickly. You can also make the document more fluid and easier to follow and make certain that it meets the SOI and AK SHPO standards. Both can be downloaded. I would also address the issue regarding the National Register eligibility of the site on the Haul Road. Please provide updated eligibility recommendations. If not, we will work directly with the SHPO to sort this out.

I will be discussing the entire report issue with Victoria Rutson, Director of the Office of Environmental Analysis, next week. She is already aware of the report's deficiencies as I have discussed in past emails to you.

All the best,
Cathy

Catherine Glidden
Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423
(202) 245-0293

-----"Barbara Hotchkin" <Hotchkinb@akrr.com> wrote: -----

To: "Shina A (DNR) duVall" <shina.duvall@alaska.gov>, <Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov>
 From: "Barbara Hotchkin" <Hotchkinb@akrr.com>
 Date: 02/10/2012 03:54PM
 Cc: "Brian Lindamood" <LindamoodB@akrr.com>, "Elizabeth Grover" <Elizabeth.Grover@hdrinc.com>
 Subject: Re: PMRE 2011 Archaeological Survey Report

Catherine and Shina - I would like to have a brief conference call with both of you and Elizabeth ASAP if possible, so we can make some progress on revisions this afternoon. We have had previous discussion with SHPO on some the items in your e-mail. Please let me know your availability. We can use the ARRC bridge line (907-265-2252). Thanks, Barb

>>> <Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov> 2/10/2012 10:30 AM >>>
 Barbara,

I did get your voice mails, but need to head out of the office in a few minutes, so I thought I'd respond via email.

I will be providing some general comments to you early next week regarding some examples of problems I see with the report. I will also mark up a few pages with specific comments. I have been advised by members of my staff to request that you make the changes on your end and then provide the SHPO and STB with revised DRAFT documents for another round of reviews. In the meantime, I would suggest that you work with the SHPO to determine the likely eligibility of the site that was discovered along the Haul Road. This should be done since the area was surveyed and described in the report. The fact that "there is a strong possibility that the proposed Haul Road will not be constructed" does not justify skipping this step, especially since Site TYO-00276 appears to be the only significant site identified during the entire survey. What if the Haul Road IS constructed and the site is destroyed?

I would also have members of your staff begin an editorial overhaul of the report. There are multiple grammatical errors in the report that can be addressed right away. I would also be certain that the organization of the report is improved. For instance, the discussion of the probability areas and how they were derived needs to be more clearly discussed (discussion on pages 3 and the bottom of page 4 should be combined).

I understand that you have a tight schedule, but we will need to ensure that we only approve documents that meet the SOI and AK SHPO standards agreed to by all in the project MOU.

-Cathy

Catherine Glidden
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 Office of Environmental Analysis
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"Barbara Hotchkin" <Hotchkinb@akrr.com> wrote on 02/09/2012 12:59:10 PM:

> From: "Barbara Hotchkin" <Hotchkinb@akrr.com>
 > To: <Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov>
 > Date: 02/09/2012 01:02 PM
 > Subject: Re: PMRE 2011 Archaeological Survey Report
 >
 > Catherine,
 >
 > A copy of the word document is attached, with the maps and cover
 > page removed to make it a manageable size. I agree that the
 > document could been better written, and we would be happy to make
 > any editorial corrections you would like. I noticed a few edits

> that I would like to make myself. However, given the risk of
> delaying construction and the associated costs, I hope that we can
> focus on the substance and conclusions in the report first, to get
> approval to proceed. I believe the report provides enough
> information to support the recommended finding of no historic
> properties affected for Segments 1 and 6 and the Section 6 Borrow
> Area based on the archaeological surveys. Prompt approval to proceed
> will not prevent us from making editorial corrections and finalizing
> the report, even if it is after clearing activities planned to begin
> this month have been initiated. We spoke with SHPO representatives
> yesterday, and they expect to have comments to us by Friday, and
> seem to agree with the findings. Thanks, Barb
>
>
> >>> <Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov> 2/9/2012 5:25 AM >>>
> Barbara,
>
> Could you send me the report in Word? I am finding that the
> document has multiple grammatical errors and it would be much more
> efficient for me if I could just make the changes in Word. I find
> the report somewhat confusing and not well written. It appears to
> have been put together by multiple authors in a rather hurried,
> sketchy fashion. It will take me some time to sort through the
> document and figure out what changes to provide to you. If the
> report had been professionally edited I think I could have made the
> 15-day requested deadline, but now I'm not sure.
>
> -Cathy
>
> Catherine Glidden
> Environmental Protection Specialist
> Office of Environmental Analysis
> Surface Transportation Board
> Washington, DC 20423
> (202) 245-0293
>
> "Barbara Hotchkin" <Hotchkinb@akrr.com> wrote on 01/26/2012 08:50:49 PM:
>
> > From: "Barbara Hotchkin" <Hotchkinb@akrr.com>
> > To: "Judy Bittner" <judy.bittner@alaska.gov>,
> > <Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov>
> > Cc: "Brian Lindamood" <LindamoodB@akrr.com>, "Shina A (DNR) duVall"
> > <shina.duvall@alaska.gov>, "Summer Rickman"
> > <summer.rickman@alaska.gov>, "Elizabeth Grover"
> > <Elizabeth.Grover@hdrinc.com>, "Angie Wade" <AWade@kniktribe.org>,
> > "Brad Sworts" <Brad.Sworts@matsugov.us>, "Fran Seager-Boss"
> > <Fran.Seager-Boss@matsugov.us>
> > Date: 01/26/2012 09:02 PM
> > Subject: PMRE 2011 Archaeological Survey Report
> >
> > Judy and Catherine,
> > In accordance with Stipulations III.B and IV of the Port MacKenzie
> > Rail Extension (PMRE) project PA, I am pleased to submit the Working
> > Group's 2011 Survey Report for a formal review. The PA stipulates a
> > 30-day review period. However, based on the negative results of the
> > survey for Segments 1 and 6 and the Section 6 Borrow Area, the
> > ongoing consultation between the Working Group and SHPO, and the
> > forthcoming onset of construction in Segment 1 (planned for
> > February), we respectfully request an expedited review. Please
> > provide comments or concurrence for the recommended finding by

> > February 10, 2012 if possible.
> > Please contact me at 907.265.2313 or Brian Lindamood at 907.265.3095
> > if you have questions or require additional information. Thanks, Barb
> >
> >
> > Barbara C. Hotchkin
> > Alaska Railroad Corporation
> > 327 W. Ship Creek Ave.
> > Anchorage, AK 99501
> > Phone: (907) 265-2313
> > Fax: (907) 265-3961
> > hotchkinb@akrr.com
> > [attachment "2011 PMRE Survey Report letter to STB and SHPO
> > 012612.pdf" deleted by Catherine Glidden/STB] [attachment
> > "PMRE-2011Survey_OHA-crrcvrsht.pdf" deleted by Catherine Glidden/
> > STB] [attachment "2011 PMRE Final report-01262012.pdf" deleted by
> > Catherine Glidden/STB] [attachment "2011 PMRE Final
> report-01262012-nofigures.docx" deleted by Catherine Glidden/STB]