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December 1, 2011

EL-18763

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND POSTAL
SERVICE**

Victoria Rutson
Chief
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

**Re: Finance Docket No. 35095, The Alaska Railroad Corporation -- Construction
and Operation Exemption -- A Rail Line Extension to Port MacKenzie,
Alaska**

Dear Ms. Rutson:

In accordance with Decision served on November 21, 2011 in the above-captioned proceeding, The Alaska Railroad Corporation ("ARRC") hereby requests that the Office of Environmental Analysis ("OEA") approve the use of a third-party consultant, to be selected by SEA, to assist OEA in the monitoring and enforcement of mitigation measures and in meeting its responsibilities defined in the Stipulations of the Programmatic Agreement.

ARRC wishes to inform SEA that it would have no objection if SEA were to select DOWL HKM as the third-party consultant. DOWL HKM is among the third-party consultants pre-approved by SEA.

Sincerely,


Kathryn Kusske Floyd

cc: David C. Navecky
Brian Lindamood
Brad Sworts