

#E1-2040



140278077 Iowa Interstate Railroad (IAIS) STB Docket NO. AB-414 (SUB-NO.7X)

Oakland Branch Project from MP 467.77 to MP 469.59

Jones, Doug [DCA]

to:

tlitwiler@fletcher-sippel.com

03/12/2014 10:58 AM

Cc:

"Jones, Doug [DCA]", "Christian, Ralph [DCA]", "Gourley, Kathy [DCA]", "King, Steve [DCA]", "Diana.Wood@stb.dot.gov"

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Dear Mr. Litwiler,

Thank you for providing information to our office concerning the above referenced proposed project. We understand that this project will be a federal undertaking for the Surface Transportation Board (STB) and will need to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. We make the following comments and recommendations based on our examination of this material and in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800 (revised, effective August 5, 2004); the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Policy Statement on Affordable Housing and Historic Preservation (adopted November 9, 2006); and on The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation recently issued guidance in November 2011 on *Meeting the "Reasonable and Good Faith" Identification Standard in Section 106 Review*.

Based on your information, it is our opinion that this section of track and the two bridges do not meet any of the eligibility criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. We note that an archaeological site background check was not included with your documentation. Based on the proposed project activities, it would appear that the current undertaking would not have the potential to affect any significant archaeological deposits that may be located within the railroad corridor. We look forward to consulting with the federal agency when they provide us with a determination of effect to our office and all other potential consulting parties for consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. . If the Area of Potential Effect is the same as the maps provided and your

client and the federal agency agree with these recommendations and proposed determination of effect of No Historic Properties Affected, we would concur with that determination from the responsible federal agency.

This is the official SHPO comment letter for the above-referenced project, provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800 (revised, effective August 5, 2004). To read the document, you may need to download a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader at www.adobe.com.

Please reference the Review and Compliance Number provided above in all future submitted correspondence to our office for this project. Should you have any questions please contact me at doug.jones@iowa.gov or at the number below. Please note that you will not receive a hard copy of this letter by mail. There is no need to reply to this email unless you have specific questions or have problems opening the document.

We have provided this **technical assistance** according to our responsibility defined by Federal law. It remains the **Federal agency's decision** on how you will proceed from this point for this project.

Douglas W. Jones, Archaeologist and
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