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EMBANKMENT
PRESERVATION
COALITION

June 12, 2009

Victoria Rutson, Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration
Surface Transportation Board
Washington DC 20423

FAXED to: 202-245-0454

Re: Consulting Party Status in the Section 106 Process
STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1189X): Consolidated Rail
Corporation - Abandonment Exemption - in Hudson County, New Jersey

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Thank you for your letter regarding consultative party status. This response confirms our continued interest in participating in the Section 106 process for this proceeding.

I will be the contact for our organization. My contact information is:

Maureen Crowley, Coordinator
Embankment Preservation Coalition
263 Fifth St
Jersey City, NJ 07302
201-963-0232
Moher1@aol.com

We look forward to the Section 106 process, though we have concerns that all parties will enter into the process in good faith. We note that Conrail is currently pursuing local demolition permits for historic resources with its private developer partner, and that the partner may claim that it is not subject to STB jurisdiction.

We also note that the first step of the process you outlined - the identification of historic resources within the Area of Potential Effect - appears to have been completed or is at least well underway through the collaboration of Conrail, STB, and NJ SHPO, but without our participation or the participation of other interested or consulting parties. We look forward to further details about the process, specifically how consulting parties work with you and with each other, and a projected schedule.

Sincerely,

Maureen Crowley
Maureen Crowley, Coordinator
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Copies:

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