



MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
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JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

EARLE G. SHETTLEWORTH, JR.
DIRECTOR

November 12, 2010

Ms. Diana F. Wood
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S.W., Room 1110
Washington, DC 20423

Project: MHPC# 0199-10 - purchase and maintenance of the Montreal, Maine &
Atlantic Railway (MMA) by the State of Maine
Town: Penobscot and Aroostook Counties, ME

Dear Ms. Wood:

In response to your recent request, I have reviewed the information received November 1 and 2, 2010 to continue consultation on the above referenced project in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).

Based on the information submitted, I have concluded that there will be no historic properties affected by the proposed revised undertaking (purchase of the rail line by the State of Maine and continuation of rail service), as defined by Section 106.

As we conveyed in our email correspondence earlier this month, we previously issued the attached memorandum to the Maine Department of Transportation regarding Section 106.

Please contact Robin Stancampiano of my staff if we can be of further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kirk F. Mohnhey
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

enc.



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STATE OF MAINE

MEMORANDUM

July 7, 2010

To: David Gardner, ENV/Maine Department of Transportation

From: Kirk F. Mohny, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer *KFM*

Subject: PIN 17643.04; purchase and maintenance, Montreal, Maine and Atlantic Railway (MMA), Penobscot and Aroostook counties; MHPC #0199-10

In response to your recent request, I have reviewed the information received June 16, 2010 to continue consultation on the above referenced undertaking pursuant to the Maine Programmatic Agreement and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Based on the information submitted, as well as the provision of Stipulation 2.B. of the PA that exempts from SHPO, FHWA and FTA review the replacement of "Rail: track structure, ballasts, ties," I concur with the MDOT's finding that there will be no historic properties [archaeological or architectural] affected by the proposed undertaking. However, the Commission notes that the MDOT did not conduct architectural surveys in the area of potential effect or evaluate the National Register eligibility of the railway and its constituent elements, because it concluded that the "undertaking has no potential to cause effect to any properties...." Although it is unclear whether the MDOT considered the MMA Railway itself as being potentially eligible, we assume that future Section 106 undertakings involving the Railway that are not exempt from review under the PA will address the National Register status of this resource pursuant to Stipulation 4.B.

Please contact Robin Stancampiano of our office if we can be of further assistance in this matter.