

#E1-21142

August 25, 2015

Via Federal Express Ground

Judith Deel
Compliance Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
1101 Riverside Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65101

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1659 East Elm St
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Via Hand Delivery:

Diana Wood
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Room 1110
395 E Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20243
ph: 202.245.0302

Sharon Fry
503 W. 2nd Street
Stover, MO 65078

Re: Missouri Central Railroad Company – Abandonment Exemption – in Cass, Pettis, Benton, Morgan, Miller, Cole, Osage, Maries, Gasconade, and Franklin Counties, Missouri, STB Docket No. AB-1068 (Sub-No. 3X)

To Signatory and Concurring Parties:

As you know, the Missouri Central Railroad Company (“MCRR”) has sought authorization from the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) to abandon approximately 144.3 miles of its rail line through central Missouri in the above-captioned case. The abandonment is in two segments: from milepost 71.6 to milepost 215.325, and from milepost 262.906 to milepost 263.5. As part of the abandonment process, a Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) was signed among MCRR, the STB, and the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”) as Signatory Parties. Additionally, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (Division of State Parks) (“MDNR”) signed as an Invited Signatory Party, and the City of Stover signed as a Concurring Party.

As required by Section V(A)(1) of the MOA, MCRR has completed a written Draft Report, which is entitled *Phase I Archaeological Survey of Approximately 144.30 Miles of the Missouri Central Railroad Company Right-of-Way in Benton, Cole, Cass, Franklin, Gasconade, Maries, Miller, Morgan, Osage, and Pettis Counties, Missouri*. The Draft Report is enclosed with this cover letter in both hard copy and electronic format. The hard copy format consists of the Draft Report divided into three volumes: the narrative portion is in the first volume, Appendices A through F are in the second volume, and Appendices G through L are in the third volume. The electronic copy format consists of a compact disk containing the entirety of the *Report* (narrative and Appendices) in PDF format.

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Pursuant to Section V(A)(1) of the MOA, your receipt of the Draft Report commences a 30-day comment period. You should be receiving the Draft Report on August 28, 2015, and the **comment period will end on September 30, 2015.**

Comments should be submitted to Diana Wood at: **Diana Wood, Office of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, Room 1110, 395 E Street S.W., Washington, DC 20243, ph: 202.245.0302, fax: 202.245.0454, woodd@stb.dot.gov.** After the end of the comment period, the STB's Office of Environmental Analysis will determine if any revisions are necessary to the Draft Report, as described in Section V(A)(1) of the MOA.

Please note, Appendix L of the Draft Report is titled "Black and White Photographs" and consists of the photographs that MCRR will separately print on archival paper for SHPO as part of the Final Report. If any other party would like the Appendix L photographs on archival paper, then a specific written request for such photographs must be made during the 30-day comment period.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Yours very truly,



Sandra L. Brown
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(202) 331-8330 (facsimile)

Attorney for Missouri Central Railroad Company

enclosures: Draft Report (paper copy)
Compact Disk (containing Draft Report in PDF format)
Certificate of Service

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on this 25th day of August 2015, I served a copy of the foregoing Draft Report of the *Phase I Archaeological Survey of Approximately 144.30 Miles of the Missouri Central Railroad Company Right-of-Way in Benton, Cole, Cass, Franklin, Gasconade, Maries, Miller, Morgan, Osage, and Pettis Counties, Missouri* ("Report") upon the parties listed below by Federal Express Ground (postage prepaid), except that Diana Wood of the Surface Transportation Board was served via hand delivery. All parties received a paper copy of the *Report* divided into three volumes: the narrative portion of the *Report* is in the first volume, Appendices A through F are in the second volume, and Appendices G through L are in the third volume. All parties also received a compact disk containing the entirety of the *Report* (narrative and Appendices) in electronic, PDF format.

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