

DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Michael R. Pence, Governor
Cameron F. Clark, Director

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August 21, 2014

EI-20514

Victoria Rutson
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423

Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Re: Surface Transportation Board's finding of "adverse effect" regarding CSX Transportation, Inc.'s acquisition of an operating easement to allow joint use for CSXT trains to operate over 106.5 miles of the Louisville and Indiana Railroad Company (L&I) rail lines and proposed improvements to the rail lines between Indianapolis, IN, MP 4.0, and Louisville, KY, MP 110.5 (FD 35523; DHPA #11979)

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated July 25, 2014 and received on July 29, 2014 for the above indicated project in Indiana.

Thank you for providing notification of the Surface Transportation Board's finding of Adverse Effect for the replacement of the bridge at MP 40.19, carrying the Louisville & Indiana Railroad over the Flatrock Creek near Columbus, Indiana. We previously agreed with the railroad engineer's assessment that there appeared to be no feasible alternative to replacement of the historic bridge and that documentation prior to its removal, according to the DHPA Minimum Architectural Documentation Standards, would be an appropriate mitigation measure. As such, the Indiana SHPO would be willing to enter into a memorandum of agreement to memorialize mitigation measures and resolve adverse effects of the undertaking. Once the Surface Transportation Board has had an opportunity to take into account the views on the effects as provided by the Indiana SHPO and other consulting parties, it is our understanding that a draft memorandum of agreement will be circulated for review and comment.

A copy of the revised 36 C.F.R. Part 800 regulations that took effect on August 5, 2004, may be found on the Internet at www.achp.gov for your reference. If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Cathy Draeger-Williams at (317) 234-3791 or cdraeger-williams@dnr.IN.gov. If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Chad Slider at (317) 234-5366 or cslider@dnr.IN.gov. Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA #11979.

Very truly yours,

Mitchell K. Zoll
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

MKZ:CWS:cws

emc: David C. Navecky, Environmental Protection Specialist, Surface Transportation Board
Melanie Yasbin, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC