



EI- 17933

Preserving America's Heritage

January 23, 2009

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423

Ref: *Proposed Alaska Railroad Corporation construction and operation of rail line
STB Finance Docket No. 34658
Between North Pole and Delta Junction, Alaska*

Dear Ms. Rutson:

On November 24, 2008, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) notified the Surface Transportation Board (STB) that it will participate in consultation to resolve adverse effects from the referenced undertaking given the applicability of one or more of the criteria set forth in Appendix A of our regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). On that date, we also requested additional information to assist us in providing technical assistance and advice to STB relevant to the agency's coordination of Section 106 consultation. A recent review of our records indicates we have not yet received the additional information. We therefore request a brief update of the status of consultation for this undertaking and the remainder of the information needed to meet the requirements of §800.11(e) of our regulations, as described in our letter of November 24.

We look forward to receiving this information and to continuing to assist the STB in the fulfillment of its compliance responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If you have any questions, please contact Blythe Semmer of our staff at (202) 606-8552 or via email at bsemmer@achp.gov. We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Charlene Dwin Vaughn, AICP
Assistant Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Federal Permitting, Licensing, and Assistance Section

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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