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October 9, 2012

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Victoria Rutson, Esq.
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**Re: FD No. 30186, Tongue River Railroad Company, Inc.
Request for Approval of Third Party Consultant**

Dear Ms. Rutson:

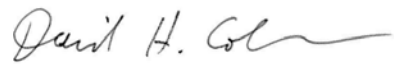
We are writing to request your approval, in accordance with 49 C.F.R. §1105.10(d), to retain an independent third-party consultant to work with your office to prepare the necessary environmental documentation associated with the proposed construction of a rail line for the Tongue River Railroad Company, Inc. ("TRRC"). TRRC will shortly be filing a revised Application in the above docket seeking STB authority to construct the rail line along a slightly modified version of an alignment that was previously approved by the ICC in 1986 that would run between Miles City, MT and Ashland/Otter Creek, MT.

TRRC proposes that ICF International ("ICF") be retained as the third-party consultant. ICF is among the third-party consultants pre-approved by the Board for use in environmental studies. We understand that ICF's work would be performed on behalf of, and at the direction of, the Board pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1150.10(d). Further, we understand that ICF would undertake this project in accordance with the Board's requirements for disclosure of any conflicts of interest and pursuant to an appropriate memorandum of understanding that would be entered among the Board, ICF and TRRC. We can confirm that ICF is not presently engaged in any other projects for TRRC or for any of the owners of TRRC's parent.

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We look forward to your response and to answering any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David H. Coburn", with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David H. Coburn
Attorney for Tongue River Railroad Company, Inc.