



FI-17000

18

United States Department of Agriculture
Research, Education and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

October 19, 2012

SUBJECT: Docket No. FD 30186, Tongue River Railroad Company, Inc.-Rail Construction and Operation-in Custer, Powder River and Rosebud Counties, Mont.; Cooperating Agency Invitation for New EIS

TO: Victoria Ruston, Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423

FROM: Mark Petersen, Research Leader

Thank you for the invitation to participate as a cooperating agency in an Environmental Impact Statement to be prepared by your agency in response to a revised proposal by the Tongue River Railroad Company. In accepting your invitation, we look forward to full participation in all activities as an interagency cooperator.

Please keep us informed of the schedule for scoping meeting, questions concerning our laboratory, and opportunities to review and provide feedback concerning study results.

We are available to participate as a cooperating agency. Please contact Maribeth Wuertz at 406-874-8239 (e-mail address: maribeth.wuertz@ars.usda.gov) or myself at 406-874-8222 (e-mail address: mark.petersen@ars.usda.gov).

cc: Ed Reilly, USDA-ARS, Deputy Director, Assets Management and Property
Mark Lodine, Office General Counsel, USDA
Larry Chandler, USDA-ARS, Director, Northern Plains Area
Maribeth Wuertz, USDA-ARS, Administrative Officer



Northern Plains Area
Fort Keogh Livestock and Range Research Laboratory
243 Fort Keogh Road • Miles City, Montana 59301-4016
Telephone: 406-874-8219 • Fax: 406-874-8289 • E-mail: mark.petersen@ars.usda.gov
An Equal Opportunity Employer