

EI-20542
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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

September 24, 2014

Catherine Nadals
Office of Environmental Assessment
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington DC 20423

RE: Docket No. AB-733X Housatonic Railroad Company Inc. Discontinuance of Service Exemption &
Docket No. AB-1121X Coltsville Terminal Company Inc. Abandonment Exemption, MHC #RC.56539.

Dear Ms. Nadals:

Staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC), office of the State Historic Preservation Officer, received notification of the project referenced above on July 28, 2014, and recently a copy of a letter to you dated September 17, 2014, received by the MHC on September 22, 2014.

The MHC did not comment on the initial notification within thirty (30) days of receipt of the project information. The MHC will have no further comment on the STB's undertaking as proposed, because no further MHC review of the STB undertaking is required (36 CFR 800.3(c)(4)).

To advise and assist the STB in its responsibilities, the MHC offers the following: The MHC reviewed the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth for the area of potential effect for STB's undertaking, and no recorded significant historic properties were identified. The MHC advises that no further historic properties identification effort for the STB's undertaking should be required (36 CFR 800.3). The MHC advises that the STB make a determination of "no historic properties affected" (36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)) for the STB's undertaking.

These comments are offered to assist in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended (36 CRFR 800).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edward L. Bell".

Edward L. Bell
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission

xc:

John D. Heffner, Strasburger & Price LLP
Thomas P. Gray, MassDOT

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