

E1-18185

After reading the Project Description provided by the ARRC and after observing the map of the possible routes for the rail extension I felt obligated to write my unbiased opinion on what I feel would be the best route. I am not against responsible development nor am I a property owner who will be financially effected by any one of the proposed routes. After careful observation of the proposed routes I felt the Mac East to the Conn 2 through East of Big Lake was not only the shortest distance to the ARRC Mainline but would have the least amount of environmental impact.

The land that would be strongly impacted with the other two proposed routes through Houston or Willow would be placed in the middle of some of the highest density of moose wintering grounds. Trains and moose do not co-exist well with one another. The amount of critical wetlands that will be effected seems to be much larger with the Willow and Houston routes. The Willow and Houston routes would require multiple river and creek crossings which would increase costs and would come with the constant concerns of potential flooding and temporary closures for routine bridge repairs.

I enjoy hunting, fishing, snow machining and the wilderness the Nancy Lake and the Little Sue Recreational areas have to offer. This area is plentiful with wildlife and true peace and quiet.

Thank you,
Robert Shafer



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Section of Environmental Analysis
Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Project
Environmental Impact Statement

COMMENT FORM

Your input is an important element in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement phase of this project. To help us incorporate your views and suggestions, please provide your comments below and mail them to the address preprinted on the back of this form. Please write legibly. You may attach additional sheets if necessary. Alternatively, you may submit your comments online at STB's Web site (<http://www.stb.dot.gov/>) by clicking on "E-Filing" and selecting "Environmental Comments" or by mailing a comment letter to the address provided on the back of this form.

Please include your name and address so that we can add you to our mailing list if you would like to receive subsequent information on the project. Thank you for taking the time to provide us with your comments.

Full Name:	Robert Shafer		
Address:	19866 Tulwae Drive		
City, State, Zip :	Chugiak , AK ,	99567	
Phone:	(907) 244-3210		

What comments do you have about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement?
