

#E1-20405



140300044 Iowa Interstate Railroad, LTD. STB Docket NO. AB-414 (SUB 8X)

Abandonment of line between MP 145.75 to 135

Jones, Doug [DCA]

to:

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03/13/2014 09:28 AM

Cc:

"Jones, Doug [DCA]", "Gourley, Kathy [DCA]", "Christian, Ralph [DCA]", "King, Steve [DCA]", "Diana.Wood@stb.dot.gov"

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March 13, 2014

Mr. Litwiler,

We understand that this project will be a federal undertaking for the Surface Transportation Board (STB) and will need to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. We make the following comments and recommendations based on our examination of this material and in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800 (revised, effective August 5, 2004); the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Policy Statement on Affordable Housing and Historic Preservation (adopted November 9, 2006); and on The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation recently issued guidance in November 2011 on *Meeting the "Reasonable and Good Faith" Identification Standard in Section 106 Review*.

We will need the following types of information provided to our office to initiate the Section 106 review for this undertaking:

- The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this project needs to be adequately defined (36 CFR Part 800.16 (d)).
- Information on what types of cultural resources are or may be located in the APE (36 CFR Part 800.4).

- The significance of the historic properties in the APE in consideration of the National Register of Historic Places Criteria.
- A determination from the responsible federal agency of the undertaking's effects on historical properties within the APE (36 CFR Part 800.5).

Specifically, we will need the information about the bridge and some history about these line segments to be abandoned before we can proceed with our review. Also, we note that an archaeological site background check was not included with your documentation. We would like to refer you and the STB to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's recently issued guidance in November 2011 on *Meeting the "Reasonable and Good Faith" Identification Standard in Section 106 Review* for guidance on what types of information should be included in the documentation provided for consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. We would encourage you to contact the Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa to get an archaeological site background check conducted for your undertaking. We look forward to consulting with the federal agency when they provide us with a determination of effect to our office and all other potential consulting parties for consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

We will be able to provide comments on this undertaking when this information has been addressed and provided to our office. Please reference the Review and Compliance Number provided above in all future submitted correspondence to our office for this project. We look forward to further consulting with you and the Surface Transportation Board on this project.

This is the official SHPO comment letter for the above-referenced project, provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800 (revised, effective August 5, 2004). To read the document, you may need to download a free copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader at www.adobe.com.

Please reference the Review and Compliance Number provided above in all future submitted correspondence to our office for this project. Should you have any questions please contact me at doug.jones@iowa.gov or at the number below. Please note that you will not receive a hard copy of this letter by mail. There is no need to reply to this email unless you have specific questions or have problems opening the document.

We have provided this **technical assistance** according to our responsibility defined by Federal law. It remains the **Federal agency's decision** on how you will proceed from this point for this project.

Douglas W. Jones, Archaeologist and
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