

Norfolk Southern Corporation
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James R. Paschall
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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

AUG 31 2004

Part of
Public Record August 27, 2004



via fax 202-565-9002 and mail
Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423

211909

Re: STB Docket No. AB-859 (Sub-No. 1x), Pennsylvania Lines LLC –
Abandonment Exemption – in Northampton County, PA, embracing STB
Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 245X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company
– ~~Discontinuance of Service Exemption~~ – in Northampton County, PA,
– Request for Removal of Section 106 Condition

Dear Mr. Williams:

In a decision served March 10, 2004 in the captioned matters, the Board imposed seven environmental or historic preservation process conditions, including the retention of NSR's its interest in and taking no steps to alter the historic integrity of all sites and structures on the right-of-way that are 50 years old or older until completion of the section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act. In view of the attached letter from the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer advising that the line between Hellertown, PA and Bethlehem, PA that is proposed for abandonment in this matter is not subject to listing on the National Register of Historic Places, NSR requests that the Section 106 historic preservation process condition imposed in the decision served March 10, 2004 in these dockets be removed.

Very truly yours,

James R. Paschall

Encl.

cc w/encl: Ms. Victoria Rutson, Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

March 22, 2004

James R. Paschall
Norfolk Southern Corporation, Law Dept.
Three Commercial Place
Norfolk, VA 23510-9241

TO EXPEDITE REVIEW USE
SHP REFERENCE NUMBER

Re: ER 04-0735-095-C

STB Docket No. AB-859 (Sub-No. 1X), Pennsylvania Lines LLC-
Abandonment Exemption-in Northampton County, PA; STB Docket
No. AB-290 (Sub No. 245X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company-
Discontinuance of Service Exemption-in Northampton County, PA
(between Hellertown and Bethlehem, PA)

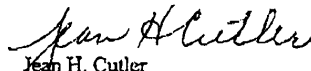
Dear Mr. Paschall:

The Bureau for Historic Preservation (the State Historic Preservation Office) has reviewed the above named project in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1980 and 1992, and the regulations (36 CFR Part 800) of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as revised in 1999. These requirements include consideration of the project's potential effect upon both historic and archaeological resources.

Thank you for supplying the additional historical documentation we requested. We concur with finding of the agency that the following property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places: North Pennsylvania Railroad, Hellertown to Bethlehem, Northampton County, Pennsylvania. We concur that no archaeological investigations are necessary in this project area.

If you need further information in this matter please consult Susan Zacher at (717) 783-9920.

Sincerely,


Jean H. Cutler
Bureau Director

JHC/smz

