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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

July 20, 2012

Lori Hunsaker, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer - Archaeology
Division of State History
Utah Department of Community and Culture
300 South Rio Grande St.
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1182

Dear Ms. Hunsaker,

RE: Section 106 Consultation in Finance Docket No. 34075, Six County Association of Governments – Construction and Operation – Rail Line between Levan and Salina, Utah

I am writing to inform you that the Surface Transportation Board's (Board), Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is preparing a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Supplemental Draft EIS) for the 43-mile rail line that is proposed to run through Utah's Sanpete, Sevier, and Juab Counties between Juab and Salina. On June 29, 2007, the Board issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) in this proceeding.

The purpose of this letter is to provide a project update and address the progress of additional section 106 efforts following issuance of the Draft EIS. As you may recall, during the preparation of the Draft EIS, STB initiated consultation with your office, and Tribal Governments that may have ancestral connections to the project area, and other parties pursuant to the regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). At that time, the Board provided your office with a summary of the cultural resources inventory survey (survey) completed by Montgomery Archaeological Consultants on behalf of STB in September of 2005 for the Area of Potential Effect (APE). The survey identified 55 historic and prehistoric sites/properties in the APE.

In the Supplemental Draft EIS, three additional alternatives (Alternative B1, B2 and B3) have been identified and evaluated. See Attachment A. Alternatives B1 and B2 are located within the APE identified in the Draft EIS; and were evaluated in the survey. However, the third alternative, (Alternative B3) lies outside of the surveyed APE, and, therefore not included in the 2005 survey. To preliminarily identify historic structures or archaeological sites potentially impacted by construction activities, in Alternative B3's APE, a site file check was conducted at the Utah SHPO Antiquities Section. The site file check included the review of sixteen existing cultural resource surveys conducted in Alternative B3's APE. The surveys found that parts of 16 cultural resources studies conducted either cross or are within one-mile of the proposed Alternative B3 corridor. Seven of these studies identified no cultural resources at all and another five identified no cultural resources within one-mile of Alternative B3. Eight archaeological sites have been

previously recorded within one-mile of the Alternative B3 corridor. Of these, four are historic period sites or features that have been determined ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Another historic period site, a Euro-American farmstead occupied from the 1920s to the 1950s, is deemed eligible for the NRHP. Three prehistoric sites are located within one-mile of Alternative B3; two of these sites are determined eligible for the NRHP while the third is not. These sites are all located a considerable distance from the Alternative B3 corridor. It should also be noted that all three of these sites are located in the elevated South Hills rather than the lower lying farmland that Alternative B3 passes through.

Dr. Matt Edwards from the consulting firm HDR, Inc. (HDR), the Board's designated cultural resources representative, will be contacting you within the next few weeks to verify receipt of this letter and discuss any concerns you may have regarding the proposed construction. At your request, Board staff will be available to meet with you personally to discuss any comments you may have. You are welcome to coordinate directly with HDR personnel. Please be assured that the Board will maintain information regarding traditional and cultural historic properties consistent with the requirements of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, American Indian Religious Freed Act, Indian Sacred Sites Executive Order 13007, May 14, 1998, NHPA, and Archaeological Resource Protection Act.

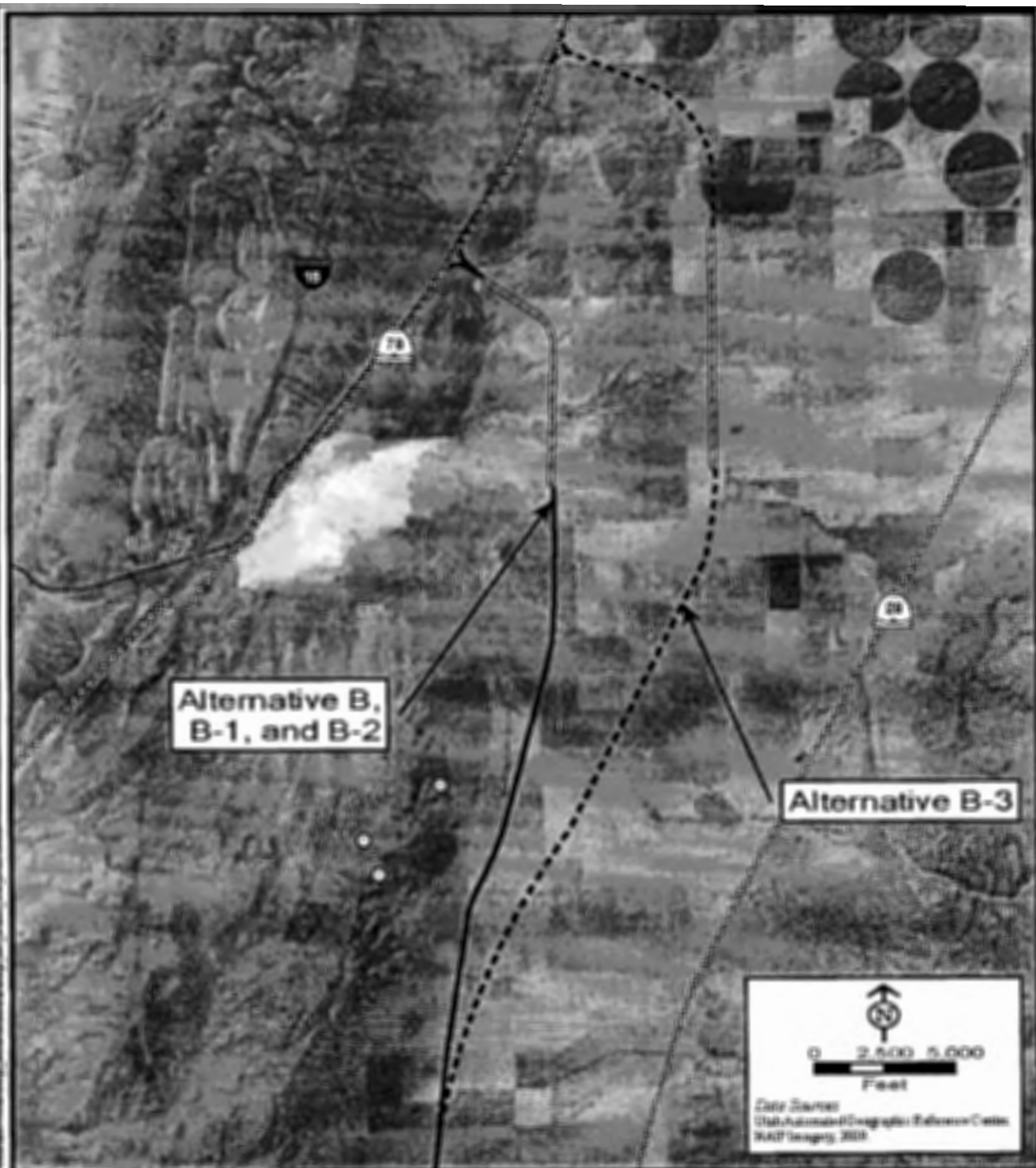
We greatly appreciate your continued participation in this undertaking as a consulting party. We also value your continued input toward the goal of developing a finalized Memorandum of Agreement for historic properties that are eligible for NRHP and that could be affected by the undertaking pursuant to 36 CFR 800.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Matt Edwards from HDR at (801) 244-2872 or by email at matthew.edwards@hdrinc.com. or me at (202) 245-0304 or by email: johnson-ballp@stb.dot.gov. For additional information about the Board, please refer to our web site at www.stb.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillis Johnson-Ball". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "P" and "J".

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Deputy Director,
Office of Environmental Analysis



CENTRAL UTAH RAIL
SUPPLEMENT

10-101

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Legend

--- Truck Route

~ Union Pacific Main Line -
Sharp Subdivision

▨ Interchange Yard
(Not to Scale)

○ Prehistoric Site Locations

Figure 2-4
Alternative B3 at
Northern Terminus