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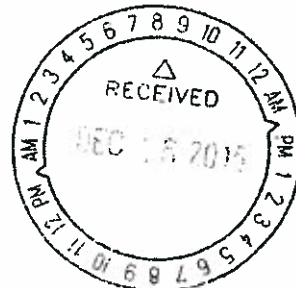
LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE *Tribal Historic Preservation Office*

Amy Burnette, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Sheila Gotchie, Office Manager

December 4, 2015

Surface Transportation Board
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Proposed Wisconsin Central Ltd. – Abandonment Exemption
Lincoln County, Wisconsin
Docket No. AB 303 (Sub-No. 47X)
LL THPO No. 15-275-NCRI



Dear Surface Transportation Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1992 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (38CFR800).

I have reviewed the documentation; after careful consideration of our records, I have determined that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe does not have any known recorded sites of religious or cultural importance in these areas.

Should any human remains or suspected human remains be encountered, all work shall cease and the following personnel should be notified immediately in this order: County Sheriff's Office and Office of the State Archaeologist. If any human remains or culturally affiliated objects are inadvertently discovered this will prompt the process to which the Band will become informed.

Please note: The above determination does not "exempt" future projects from Section 106 review. In the event of any other tribe notifying us of concerns for a specific project, we may re-enter into the consultation process.

You may contact me at (218) 335-2940 if you have questions regarding our review of this project. Please refer to the LL-THPO Number as stated above in all correspondence with this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Burnette

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Leech Lake Tribal Historic Preservation Office – Established in 1996

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Diana Wood's 12-17-2015 note to file in response to this late-filed comment concerning unanticipated finds during the salvage process in AB 303 (Sub-No. 47X):

From EA: WCL has removed the track, ties, and other track material, but intends to retain the underlying roadbed and ballast if the abandonment is authorized. WCL states that there are no trestles or bridges on the line, and further notes that a former depot located adjacent to the right-of-way is not on WCL property.