

HEI-22316



Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

November 17, 2015

Ms. Emily Thompson
BNSF Railway Company
2500 Lou Menk Drive -- AOB-3
Fort Worth, Texas 76131-2828

In future correspondence please refer to:

Log: 082415-12-STB

Property: STB Docket No. AB 6 (Sub-No. 492X), Abandonment

Re: Project Review, No Historic Properties

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Thank you for contacting our office and providing information regarding this abandonment in Thurston County, Washington. After numerous discussions with representatives from the Thurston County Public Works Department regarding the planned development of this portion of rail alignment, we have decided to forgo the need for a full cultural resources study for the purposes of abandonment. I have been assured that activities associated with abandonment will be restricted to the removal of rails and some appurtenances and that no modification of the rail corridor will occur in support of the abandonment. I have also been assured that Thurston County Public Works has agreed to complete a cultural resources survey of the entire project corridor when they convert the alignment to a bicycle/pedestrian trail in the coming years. If all of the information that I have repeated here is accurate and true, we can consider STB and BNSF's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act fulfilled.

We would appreciate receiving any correspondence or comments from concerned tribes or other parties that you receive as you consult under the requirements of 36CFR800.4(a)(4).

These comments are based on the information available at the time of this review and on the behalf of the State Historic Preservation Officer in conformance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36CFR800.

Should additional information become available, our assessment may be revised. In the event that archaeological or historic materials are discovered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity must stop, the area secured, and this office and the concerned tribes notified.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Sterner'.

Matthew Sterner, M.A.
Transportation Archaeologist
(360) 586-3082
matthew.sterner@dahp.wa.gov

Cc: V. Rutson, Surface Transportation Board
R. Giebelhaus, Thurston County Public Works

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