



Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
Robert E. Carter, Jr., Director

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June 11, 2008

Victoria J. Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Suite 1100
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board ("STB")

Re: Response to request for additional project information concerning the acquisition of Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E) by the Canadian National Railway Corporation and Grand Trunk Corporation resulting in increases in rail traffic and the necessity for future rail construction (STB Finance Docket #35087; DHPA #3488)

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated April 30, 2008 and received on May 1, 2008; and subsequent materials dated May 21, 2008 and received May 22, 2008 for the above indicated project in Lake County, Indiana.

Thank you for your recent letter. The Indiana SHPO staff appreciated the opportunity to meet with STB consultants Barry Wharton and Ron Deverman of HDR Engineering, and David Keene of Archaeological Research, Inc. at our office on May 28, 2008. The meeting improved our understanding of the project and provided the opportunity to discuss our concerns. We look forward to receiving the field study reports, as well as the materials requested in our letter of January 17, 2008. Once this information is received, the Indiana SHPO will resume identification and evaluation procedures for this project. Please keep in mind that additional information may be requested in the future.

A copy of the revised 36 C.F.R. Part 800 that went into effect on August 5, 2004 may be found on the Internet at www.achp.gov for your reference. If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Cathy Draeger at (317) 234-3791 or cdraeger@dnr.IN.gov. If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Chad Slider at (317) 234-5366 or cslider@dnr.IN.gov. Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA #3488.

Very truly yours,

James A. Glass, Ph.D.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

JAG:CWS:CLD:cws

cc: Barry Wharton, HDR Engineering, Inc.