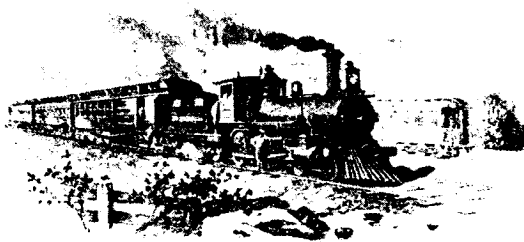


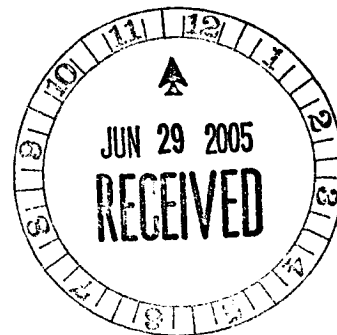
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June 24, 2005

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Mercury Building
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 700
Washington, D.C. 20423

RE: **STB Docket No. AB-254 (Sub-No. 8X)**
Providence and Worcester Railroad Company ("P&W")
East Providence, Rhode Island
Petition for Exemption for Abandonment

Dear Secretary Williams:

In connection with the above referenced filing, enclosed please find ten (10) copies of a letter from the State of Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission responding to P&W's Historic Report with a finding that the abandonment will have no effect on significant historic properties.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need anything further. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Amy Silverstein
Assistant General Counsel

Enc.

cc: To All Parties on Service List

PROVIDENCE AND WORCESTER RAILROAD COMPANY
75 HAMMOND STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01610 P.O. BOX 16551, WORCESTER, MA 01601
TELEPHONE (508) 755-4000 FAX (508) 795-0748



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Old State House • 150 Benefit Street • Providence, R.I. 02903-1209

Preservation (401) 222-2678
Heritage (401) 222-2669

FAX (401) 222-2968
TDD (401) 222-3700

June 15, 2005

Ms. Amy Silverstein
Amy Silverstein
Assistant General Counsel
Providence and Worcester Railroad Company
PO Box 16551
Worcester, MA 01610

Re: Proposed Rail Line Abandonment
East Providence

Dear Ms. Silverstein:

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission staff has reviewed the information you have provided on the Providence and Worcester Railroad's proposal to abandon a portion of its East Providence Branch and its East Junction Branch, in East Providence.

Based upon our review, we have concluded that these sections of rail line do not meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, we concur that the proposed abandonment will have no effect on significant historic properties.

These comments are provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If you have any questions please contact Richard Greenwood, Project Review Coordinator of this office.

Very truly yours,

Edward F. Sanderson
Executive Director
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

Cc: Steve Devine, RIDOT

(050615.01)

