



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

February 6, 2015

Canaveral National Seashore
Myrna Palfrey, Superintendent
212 S. Washington Avenue
Titusville, FL 32796

Re: Docket No. FD 35852, Canaveral Port Authority — Petition to Construct and Operation a Rail Line Extension to Port Canaveral, Florida: Initiation of Section 106 Consultation for Undertaking.

Dear Ms. Palfrey:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultations with you under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for the above-referenced project and to learn whether your organization is interested in participating as a Consulting Party.

The Canaveral Port Authority (CPA) plans to file a request with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10502 for authority to construct and operate approximately 11 miles of new rail line to Port Canaveral (Port) in Brevard County, Florida. The proposed Port Canaveral Rail Extension (PCRE) would also utilize approximately 17 miles of existing rail line at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) John F. Kennedy Space Center (KSC) to make a connection with a main line of the Florida East Coast Railway. The proposed PCRE would provide the Port with direct access to freight rail service. The new rail line would begin near the Port's North Cargo Area, extend west across the Banana River, enter KSC on Merritt Island south of Kars Park, and then turn north through KSC grounds where it would connect with KSC's existing rail line. The decision facing the Board whether or not to authorize the construction and operation of the rail extension is an undertaking subject to compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and its implementing regulations at 36 C.F.R. Part 800. The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is the office within the Board responsible for preparing the appropriate documentation for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as well as Section 106 of the NHPA.

For your reference, Attachment A to this letter includes a map of the project area including CPA's proposed alignments. Additional information on this project is available on a Board-sponsored project website at www.portcanaveralraileis.com and on the Board's website at www.stb.dot.gov, by placing your cursor on the "Environmental Matters" button, then clicking

on the “Key Cases” button in the drop down menu and then selecting “Port Canaveral Rail Extension.”

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail please contact Dave Navecky of my staff at 202-245-0294 (david.navecky@stb.dot.gov). You may also contact Richard Starzak with ICF International (OEA’s third party contractor) at 213-312-1751 (richard.starzak@icfi.com). I respectfully request that you respond at your earliest convenience if you are interested in participating as a Consulting Party. Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Victoria" and last name "Rutson" clearly distinguishable.

Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

cc: Richard Starzak, ICF International

Enclosure: Map of the project area including CPA’s proposed alignments

ATTACHMENT A: MAP OF PROJECT AREA and PROPOSED ALIGNMENTS

