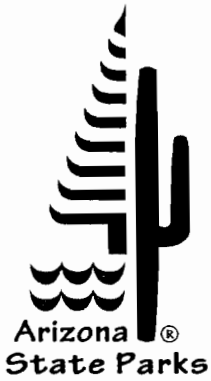


In reply, please refer to:
SHPO-2006-1264 (29567)
National Historic Preservation Act
more information requested

HEJ-2509
D7W



July 13, 2006

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 K Street, NW Room 504
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Docket No. 34836, Arizona Eastern Railway-construction and Operation, Graham County, Arizona

Janet Napolitano
Governor

**State Parks
Board Members**

**Chair
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Commissioner

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Executive Director

Arizona State Parks
1300 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Tel & TTY: 602.542.4174
www.azstateparks.com

800.285.3703 from
(520 & 928) area codes

General Fax:
602.542.4180

Director's Office Fax:
602.542.4188

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for having the Board's consultant initiate consultation with our office regarding the above-mentioned undertaking. I reviewed the documents submitted and offer the following comments pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 800.

Based on our records, portions of the undertaking's area of potential effect have not been previously surveyed to identify the presence or absence of historic properties (i.e., districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects listed or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places). Additional efforts, such as consulting with consulting parties, a literature review, and pedestrian survey, may be needed.

We recommend that your agency consult with Indian tribes at a government-to-government level pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4 (a) (4). The undertaking occurs in a culturally sensitive area.

We look forward to receiving the results of your agency's identification efforts and a finding of effect for this undertaking. We appreciate your agency's cooperation with this office in considering the impacts of federal undertakings on important cultural resources situated in Arizona pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act. If you have any questions, please contact me at (602) 542-7137 or via mbilsbarrow@pr.state.az.us.

Sincerely,

Matthew H. Bilsbarrow, RPA
Planner/ Archaeologist
Arizona State Historic Preservation Office

cc. Scott Steinwert, Circle Point, 135 Main St, Ste 1600; San Francisco, CA 94105