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To "alan.cassiday@stb.dot.gov" <alan.cassiday@stb.dot.gov>

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Subject BNSF Petition For Exemption, STB Docket No.AB-6  
(Sub-No. 465X), Environmental Assessment

*E7-16019  
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Mr. Cassiday,

Thank you again for your time today on the phone. As we discussed, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division would like additional information for the above referenced project with respect to the existing culverts that are conveying streams underneath the 12.55 miles of railroad proposed for abandonment that run from Wilburton in Bellevue, Washington and continue to Woodinville, Washington. Specifically, we would like to know how many of these culverts are fish barriers per the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's fish passage barrier and assessment and what the timeframe for the repair or replacement of any fish barriers under both the "no action" alternative and the proposed abandonment plan. If the abandonment plan results in a delay of the repair or replacement of culverts than would occur otherwise because they are now the responsibility of a local government or agency that does not have the funding to fix these culverts, then there is the potential for this project to adversely affect the Tribe's treaty protected salmonids as result of this proposal. In this instance, we would recommend that the project be conditioned to require the repair and replacement of any salmonid fish barrier to be completed as part of this abandonment project.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal. Please call me at 253-876-3116 should you have any questions.

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