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March 19, 2018

Melanie Yasbin
Louis E. Gitomer, LLC
600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301
Towson, Maryland 21204

Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Re: Response to request for additional project information concerning the abandonment of 62.3 miles of rail line between milepost 00Q251.7 and milepost 00Q314.0 [STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 775X) (DHPA #21934)]

Dear Ms. Yasbin:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. § 306108) 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 January 18, 2018 and received on January 22, 2018, for the above indicated project in Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange and Washington Counties, Indiana.

Thank you for the additional information. We understand that, due to regular track maintenance and lack of information, it is currently unknown as to if any portions of the track are over 50 years of age.

As previously stated, in terms of archaeology, no currently known archaeological resources eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places have been recorded within the proposed project area. However, archaeological site 12-Or-0618, a prehistoric campsite, is located immediately adjacent to the proposed project area and should be avoided by ground disturbing activities. It appears that the Adkins Cemetery (CR-10-13), in Carr Township, Clark County, Indiana is adjacent to the project area. Please be aware of the cemetery development plan requirements in Indiana Code 14-21-1-26.5 (<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title14/ar21/ch1.html>) regarding any proposed ground disturbance within 100 feet of a cemetery.

As previously stated, in regard to buildings and structures, we have noted the following structures within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that they may meet the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places:

Bridge 282.2 (site #175-567-26148)
Bridge 284.9
Bridge 289.8

Additionally, we have identified the following property within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that it meets the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places due to its historical and architectural significance:

B & O Passenger Station (CSX Railroad Office) in Mitchell, (site #093-416-42067)

Furthermore, we have identified the following properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places within the probable area of potential effects:

Orleans Historic District, listed September 24, 2009
Salem Downtown Historic District, listed October 10, 1997 --[the limestone embankment constructed for the Louisville New Albany and Salem Railroad in the 1850's is the southwest boundary and is a contributing resource to the district representing some of the earliest construction in the district.]

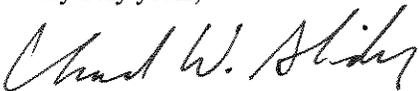
We are pleased to learn that CSXT will consider donating salvageable semaphore signals to a museum. Please see the attached email correspondence from my colleague, John Carr, with several potential locations for CSX to contact. Please provide our office with information regarding the salvaged materials and correspondence with a museum, when available.

At this time, it would be appropriate for the Surface Transportation Board to analyze the information that has been gathered from the Indiana SHPO, the general public, and any other consulting parties and make the necessary determinations and findings. Please refer to the following comments for guidance:

- 1) If the Surface Transportation Board believes that a determination of "no historic properties affected" accurately reflects its assessment, then it shall provide documentation of its finding as set forth in 36 C.F.R. § 800.11 to the Indiana SHPO, notify all consulting parties, and make the documentation available for public inspection (36 C.F.R. §§ 800.4[d][1] and 800.2[d][2]).
- 2) If, on the other hand, the Surface Transportation Board finds that an historic property may be affected, then it shall notify the Indiana SHPO, the public and all consulting parties of its finding and seek views on effects in accordance with 36 C.F.R. §§ 800.4(d)(2) and 800.2(d)(2). Thereafter, the Surface Transportation Board may proceed to apply the criteria of adverse effect and determine whether the project will result in a "no adverse effect" or an "adverse effect" in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 800.5.

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 Rachel Sharkey at (317) 234-5254 or rsharkey@dnr.IN.gov. If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Kim Marie Padgett at (317) 234-6705 or kpadgett@dnr.IN.gov. Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA #21934.

Very truly yours,



Mitchell K. Zoll
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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cc: David C. Navecky, Environmental Protection Specialist, Surface Transportation Board