

E1-18923



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources
19 Pillsbury Street, Concord, NH 03301-3570
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964
www.nh.gov/nhdhr

603-271-3483
603-271-3558
FAX 603-271-3433
preservation@dcr.nh.gov

June 13, 2012

Robert B. Burns
Pan Am Railways
Iron Horse Park
N. Billerica, MA 01862

Re: Abandonment and Discontinuance of Hampton Branch
Dkt. No. AB 32 (Sub-No. 104X) and AB 355 (Sub-No. 40X)

Dear Mr. Burns:

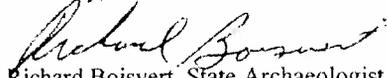
The Division of Historical Resources (Division) is in receipt of the May 24, 2012 correspondence responding to the Division's request for consultation regarding the Boston and Maine's (B & M) Abandonment of the Hampton Branch line.

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-655), as amended, and as implemented by regulations of the Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation ("36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties"), the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources/State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the undertaking referenced above to identify potential effects on properties listed, or potentially eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. The Hampton Branch of the B & M line was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 2002 for its historical and engineering significance.

Based upon the information provided through correspondence and consultation, the Division is aware that several towns along the corridor have had concerns over the abandonment of the line and would recommend continued consultation with those communities. The abandonment of the line itself may be viewed as having no effect on the identified resource, however the Division believes that there may be a potential to cause effects after abandonment through neglect or future undertakings.

The Division would recommend that a statement of significance be included with the record of Abandonment and that any future undertakings shall enter into consultation with the Division and concerned Towns in order to identify possible adverse effects to the line, if changes to the line are proposed. The Division will view this undertaking as a "*No Adverse Effect*," pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5, on any properties or districts that are listed in or may be eligible for the National Register, or on properties of known or potential architectural, historical, archaeological or cultural significance, if the language as described above is incorporated into the purchaser documents.

Sincerely,


Richard Boisvert, State Archaeologist
Deputy State Historic Preservation Office
New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources

RAB:emf

