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**PROJECTS MAINTENANCE AND ENGINEERING**

TEL 907.265.3095

FAX 907.265.3961

e-mail: [lindamoodb@akrr.com](mailto:lindamoodb@akrr.com)

Judith Bittner  
Office of History and Archaeology  
Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

Victoria Rutson  
Office of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street SW  
Washington, DC 20423

John Fowler  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803  
Old Post Office Building  
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800) Compliance  
Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Project, *Draft Iditarod Dog Sledding Historic  
District Workshop Summary and Implementation Plan*

Dear Ms. Bittner, Ms. Rutson, and Mr. Fowler:

The Surface Transportation Board (STB) issued a final decision (Docket No. FD 35095) authorizing the Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) to construct and operate approximately 35 miles of new rail line connecting Port MacKenzie to ARRC's existing main line near Houston, Alaska. In accordance with Stipulation V. of the Port MacKenzie Rail Extension (PMRE) Project Programmatic Agreement (PA), we are pleased to provide a copy of the *Draft Iditarod Dog Sledding Historic District (IDSHD) Workshop Summary and Implementation Plan* to initiate the required 30 day review and comment period. This plan is also provided in compliance with Mitigation Measures 92 and 93 of the final decision.

With this letter, we are providing copies of the *Draft IDSHD Workshop Summary and Implementation Plan* to the Invited Signatories and interested consulting parties (certain Concurring Parties to the PA). We are also notifying all individuals and organizations that participated in the IDSHD workshops and the remaining Concurring Parties to the PA of the availability of the report on the project website ([www.portmacrail.com](http://www.portmacrail.com)), and that we will send a hard copy of the plan upon request.

If you have questions or comments, please contact me at (907) 265-3095, or by email at [lindamood@akrr.com](mailto:lindamood@akrr.com). You may also contact Barbara Hotchkin at (907) 265-2313 or [hotchkinb@akrr.com](mailto:hotchkinb@akrr.com). Please provide your comments on the draft plan by April 2, 2012.

Sincerely,



Brian Lindamood  
ARRC Project Manager

Enclosure:

Draft IDSHD Workshop Summary and Implementation Plan

Cc: with enclosure:

Dave Navecky, STB  
Catherine Glidden, STB  
Shina duVall, Office of History and Archaeology  
Brad Sworts, Matanuska Susitna Borough (MSB)  
Fran Seager-Boss, MSB  
Angie Wade, Knik Tribal Council (KTC)  
Debra Call, KTC  
Jeff Bruno, Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR)  
Martin Buser, Happy Trails Kennels  
Donna Quante, Willow Dog Musers Association  
Lori Henry, Iditarod Historic Trails Alliance  
Barbara Hotchkin, ARRC  
Elizabeth Grover, HDR  
Kathryn Kusske Floyd, Dorsey & Whitney LLP

Cc: without enclosure:

Christopher Aadnesen, ARRC  
John Moosey, MSB  
Gary Harrison, Chickaloon Village Traditional Council  
Dorothy Cook, Native Village of Eklutna  
Frank Standifer, Native Village of Tyonek  
Margaret Brown, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.  
Curtis McQueen, Eklutna, Inc.  
Raymond Theodore, Knikatu, Inc.  
Wyn Menefee, ADNR