



230787

257 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101 tel 717.234.2310 fax 717.234.2522 info@preservationpa.org www.preservationpa.org

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

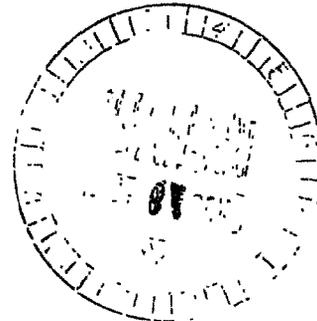
AUG 8 - 2011

Part of
Public Record

July 28, 2011

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-1071
STEWARTSTOWN RAILROAD COMPANY
ADVERSE ABANDONMENT
YORK COUNTY, PA



Dear Ms. Brown:

Preservation Pennsylvania is deeply concerned about the proposed adverse abandonment of the Stewartstown Railroad in York County, Pennsylvania, and its potential effects on historic properties associated with and comprising the railroad line. We understand that consultation has been initiated under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for the abandonment proceeding. Preservation Pennsylvania would like to participate actively in the review process, as a "consulting party" under Section 106 of the NHPA, pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §§ 800.2(c)(5) and 800.3(f)(3).

Preservation Pennsylvania is the Commonwealth's only statewide, private non-profit, membership organization dedicated to the protection of historically and architecturally significant properties. Preservation Pennsylvania has extensive knowledge about historic and cultural resources in the Commonwealth. As the statewide nonprofit historic preservation education and advocacy organization, and a Statewide Partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Pennsylvania regularly works with communities to identify historic properties and assess potential effects of various development undertakings. Part of our mission and our technical assistance to Pennsylvania communities and organizations includes exploration of ways to appropriately respond to potentially negative effects through mitigation or avoidance strategies.

Preservation Pennsylvania listed the Stewartstown Railroad on its most At Risk List for 2010 and is familiar with the historic resources associated with the Railroad eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Many members of Preservation Pennsylvania live within or near the project area and share our concern for the future of the Railroad. Preservation Pennsylvania has long been concerned about the preservation of the Stewartstown Railroad and respectfully requests consulting party status. Because of Preservation Pennsylvania's knowledge and concern about historic properties potentially affected by the project, we believe we can provide important information and a valuable perspective as a consulting party under Section 106. Please include Preservation Pennsylvania in your distribution list for public notices of any meetings, and for the circulation of any documents for comment.

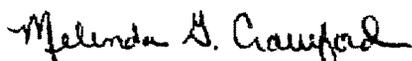
We are requesting a 180-day stay of proceedings to allow us to examine the historic significance of resources related to the Stewartstown right-of-way, including track materials and method of construction. These resources have not heretofore been examined for significance. Given the Estate's proposed plan to remove these resources specifically, an evaluation of their significance is appropriate.

We look forward to participating as the review and consultation process moves forward for the adverse abandonment of the Stewartstown Railroad.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on July 6, 2011, I caused a copy of this correspondence to be served by first class mail on those appearing below.

Sincerely,



Melinda Crawford
Executive Director

cc: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
State Historic Preservation Office
Deputy General Counsel, National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust for Historic Preservation--Regional Office
Alex E. Snyder, Esq.
James J. Gillotti, Esq.
Keith G. O'Brien, Esq.
Robert A. Wimbish, Esq.