

221957

GALLAND, KHARASCH, GREENBERG, FELLMAN & SWIRSKY, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

CANAL SQUARE 1054 THIRTY-FIRST STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007-4492
TELEPHONE 202/342-5200 FACSIMILE 202/342-5219

RICHARD BAR
DEREK A. BLOOM
BRANDAN COLLINS
STEVEN JOHN FELLMAN
EDWARD D. GREENBERG
KATHARINI FOSTER MEYER
DAVID K. MONROE
TROY A. ROLF
DAVID P. STREET
KEITH G. SWIRSKY

DAVID G. SHANNON
ROBERT N. KHARASCH
JOHN CRAIG WELLER
GEORGE F. GALLAND (1910-1985)

MINNESOTA OFFICE
700 TWELVE OAKS CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 204
WAYZATA, MN 55391
(T) 952/449-8817 (F) 952/449-0614

WRITER'S DIRECT MAIL ADDRESS
FGRLE@LLRUC@GKGLAW.COM
WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER
202-342-5277

*NOT ADMITTED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION REQUESTED

March 19, 2008



BY FACSIMILE

Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S W
Washington, DC 20004

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
APR 1 2008
Part of
Public Record

**RE: Providence and Worcester Railroad Company – Abandonment
Exemption – Slatersville Secondary Track, Docket No. AB-254 (Sub-
No. 9X) (Woonsocket, RI and Blackstone, MA)**

Dear Secretary Quinlan

On February 26, 2008, Providence and Worcester Railroad Company ("P&W") advised the Board that it received notification from the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Office advising that that agency had no objection to P&W's abandonment of the line in question. In addition, that letter referenced a similar decision having been made by the Massachusetts Historical Commission ("MHC"). For your convenience, we have enclosed another copy of our letter of February 26, 2008. We have also attached a copy of a reply that P&W received from the Massachusetts Historical Commission dated December 18, 2006, stating that that agency had received a copy of the environmental and historic report pertaining to this line. In its acknowledgment, the MHC stated:

After review of MHC files and the materials you submitted, it has been determined that this project is unlikely to affect significant or archaeological resources in Massachusetts

Accordingly, since neither the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Office nor the Massachusetts Historical Commission have any objection to P&W's plans to abandon this line,



An International Association of Independent Law Firms in Major World Centers

GALLAND, KHARASCH, GREENBERG, FELLMAN & SWIRSKY, P C

Anne K Quinlan

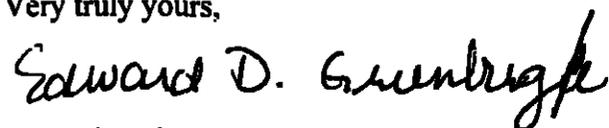
March 19, 2008

Page 2

P&W requests that the environmental and historic conditions imposed in the Board's decision of April 24, 2007 be vacated so that P&W can proceed to consummate the abandonment as soon as possible

If you have any questions concerning this, please do not hesitate to contact me

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward D. Greenberg". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Edward D. Greenberg

Attachment

cc Vickie Rutson, Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis

Marie Angelini, Esq

GALLAND, KHARASCH, GREENBERG, FELLMAN & SWIRSKY, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

CANAL SQUARE 1054 THIRTY-FIRST STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007-4492
TELEPHONE 202/342-5200 FACSIMILE 202/342-5219

RICHARD BAR
DEREK A. BLOOM
BRENDAN COLLINS
STEVEN JOHN FELLMAN
EDWARD D. GREENBERG
KATHARINE FOSTER MEYER
DAVID K. MONROE
TROY A. ROLF
DAVID P. STREET
KEITH G. SWIRSKY

DAVID G. SHANNON

ROBERT N. KHARASCH
JOHN CRAIG WELLER

GEORGE F. GALLAND (1910-1985)



WRITER'S DIRECT E-MAIL ADDRESS
EGREENBERG@GK.LAW.COM

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER
202-342-5277

*NOT ADMITTED IN DC
OF COUNSEL

February 26, 2008

Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20024



**RE: Providence and Worcester Railroad Company – Abandonment
Exemption – Slatersville Secondary Track, Docket No. AB-254 (Sub-
No. 9X) (Woonsocket, RI and Blackstone, MA)**

Dear Secretary Quinlan

In the Board's decision in this docket served April 24, 2007, P&W was directed to report to the Section of Environmental Assessment regarding any consultations it had with the Rhode Island State Historic Preservation Office ("RISHPO") and the Massachusetts Historic Preservation Office ("MASHPO"). We have attached a letter dated January 8, 2008 from Edward Sanderson, Executive Director of RISHPO, addressed to the Providence and Worcester Railroad Company ("P&W") indicating that neither RISHPO nor MASHPO have any objection to the abandonment of the portion of the Slatersville Secondary Track that is the subject of the pending proceeding.

Accordingly, P&W respectfully requests that the Board remove the condition included in the decision served April 24, 2007 that required the railroad not to consummate the abandonment or initiate any salvage activities until the Section 106 process had been completed.

As P&W desires to consummate the abandonment at the earliest possible date, we respectfully request that the Board give this matter its expedited consideration.



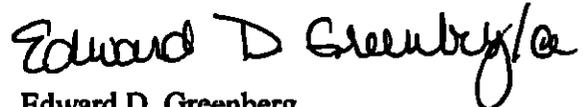
An International Association of Independent Law Firms in Major World Centers

GALLAND, KHARASCH, GREENBERG, FELLMAN & SWIRSKY, P C

Anne K. Quinlan
February 26, 2008
Page 2

If you have any questions concerning this, please do not hesitate to contact me

Very truly yours,


Edward D Greenberg

Attachment

cc: Vickie Rutson, Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis

Marie Angelini, Esq.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
 HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

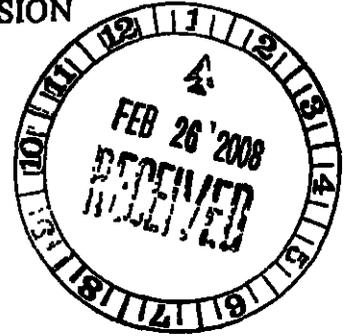
Old State House • 150 Benefit Street • Providence, R I 02903-1209

TEL (401) 222-2678

FAX (401) 222-2968

TTY (401) 222-3700

Website www.preservation.ri.gov



8 January 2008

Mr. Jonathan Meindersma
 Assistant General Counsel
 Providence and Worcester Railroad Company
 75 Hammond Street
 Worcester, Massachusetts 01610

RE: Proposed rail line abandonment
 Slatersville Secondary Branch
 Woonsocket, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Meindersma:

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission staff has reviewed the information that you have provided on the Providence and Worcester Railroad's proposal to abandon a 1.1 mile-long portion of its Slatersville Secondary Track, in Woonsocket, Rhode Island and Blackstone, Massachusetts. This information includes a determination by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC).

The MHC has determined that the abandonment is "unlikely to affect significant historic or archaeological resources in Massachusetts." Jeffrey Emdy, Project Review Coordinator for this office, examined the right-of-way and has determined that there are no significant structures present on the Woonsocket section of the right-of-way. Based upon our review, it is our conclusion that the proposed installation will have no effect on significant historic properties. Therefore, we have no objection to the abandonment of this portion of the Slatersville Secondary Track.

These comments are provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If you have any questions please contact Jeffrey Emdy, Project Review Coordinator of this office.

Very truly yours,


 Edward Sanderson, Executive Director
 Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

RECEIVED DEC 20 2006

RECEIVED

NOV 24 2006

MASS. HIST. COMM

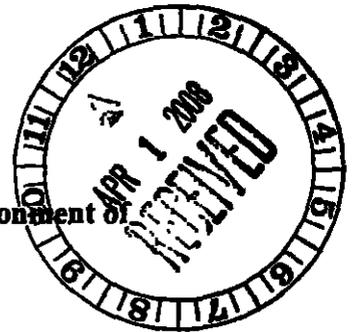
RC 41116



November 22, 2006

FOUNDED 1844

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125



Re: Providence and Worcester Railroad Company Proposed Abandonment of
Portion of Slatersville Track *Blackstone, MA*

Dear Sir or Madam:

On December 29, 2006, Providence and Worcester Railroad Company is filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon a 1.1 +/- mile portion of its branch line known as the Slatersville Secondary Track, located in Woonsocket, Rhode Island at Mile Post 0.85 +/- and continuing to a point that is 1480.3 feet northerly of the end of track at Mile Post 0.0 in Blackstone, Massachusetts. Attached is an environmental and historic report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20423, telephone (202) 565-1500. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact our representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Edward D. Greenberg, who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 342-5277 or by mail at Galland, Kharasch, Greenberg, Fellman & Swirsky, P.C., 1054 Thirty-First Street, N

Very truly yours,

Marie A. Angelini
Marie A. Angelini
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosures

After review of MARC files and the materials you submitted, it has been determined that this project is unlikely to affect significant historic or archaeological resources in Massachusetts.

Edward L. Bell
Edward L. Bell
Senior Archaeologist
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Date: 18 December 2006

PROVIDENCE AND WORCESTER RAILROAD COMPANY
76 HAMMOND STREET, WORCESTER, MA 01610 P.O. BOX 16551, WORCESTER, MA 01601
TELEPHONE (401) 755-1000 FAX (401) 755-1010