

EI-2365

Mr. 3/4/2006



**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**  
Washington, DC 20423  
Section of Environmental Analysis

Mr. Leigh Kuwanwisiwma  
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office  
P.O. Box 123  
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039-0123

Ms. Rutson 6/12/06

*We returned the blue card with this correspondence indicating our interest in continuing consultation on this project.*

*We have now located our file. Enclosed is previous correspondences —*

**To:** Mr. Leigh Kuwanwisiwma  
**From:** Victoria Rutson, Surface Transportation Board  
**Date:** March 7, 2006  
**Subject:** Section 106 Consultations in Finance Docket No. 34075, Six County Association of Governments - Construction and Operation - Rail Line between Levan and Salina, Utah

*Terry Margent  
Hopi CPO*

*928-  
734-  
3619*

The Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is in the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed 43-mile rail line that would run through Sanpete, Sevier, and Juab Counties in Utah (see attached map). The EIS is being completed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related environmental laws, including the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). SEA has identified your tribe as having traditional connections to the project area and is formally inviting you to become involved in the environmental review process as a consulting party under Section 106 of the NHPA.

A cultural resources inventory survey for the Central Utah Railroad project was completed by Montgomery Archaeological Consultants (MOAC) on behalf of STB in September of 2005. The draft document, *Cultural Resource Inventory of the Central Utah Railroad Project in Sevier, Sanpete and Juab Counties, Utah*, indicates that the project corridor crosses an area that is archaeologically rich. The survey identified 55 historic and prehistoric sites/properties in the Area of Potential Effect. A summary of the sites identified in the project area is attached as Table 1 to this letter.

STB seeks your input regarding your assessment of the National Register of Historic Places eligibility of these resources and potential effects of the undertaking on historic properties pursuant to the Section 106 regulations (36 CFR 800). We are particularly interested in determining whether any of these sites has importance to your tribe as traditional cultural properties.



Mr.

We would value any information you could provide at these early stages of the environmental review process. We would also appreciate a response within 45 days of your receipt of this letter regarding your interest in acting as a consulting party for Section 106 purposes. Kindly indicate on the enclosed postcard if you would like to act as a consulting party for this project and if you have an interest in receiving a review copy of the full cultural resources survey report. Please also inform us if you do not wish to receive additional information regarding the project.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that any tribal concerns about this project are included as part of the Section 106 and NEPA processes. If you have any questions regarding this letter or require further information, please do not hesitate to call Catherine Glidden at (202) 565-1542 ([gliddenc@stb.dot.gov](mailto:gliddenc@stb.dot.gov)) of my staff. For additional information about the Board, please refer to our web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Victoria Rutson  
Chief  
Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures (4)  
Figure 1-1 Project Location  
Figure 2-1 Alternatives  
Table 1 Historic Properties within the Study Area  
Postcard for return

THE



HOPI TRIBE

**Wayne Taylor, Jr.**

CHAIRMAN

**Elgean Joshevama**

VICE-CHAIRMAN

April 13, 2003

Rick Black  
HDR Engineering Inc.  
33995 South 700 East, Suite 100  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84107-2594  
Attention: Finance Docket No. 34075 - Environmental Comments

Re: Finance Docket No. 34075, Six County Association of Governments  
Construction and Operation - Rail Line between Levan and Salina, Utah

Dear Mr. Black,

This letter is in response to an April 1, 2003, correspondence to the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office from the Surface Transportation Board regarding their initiating an environmental review of the project described above.

In the enclosed letter dated July 2, 2001, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office responded to a correspondence from Sagebrush Consultants on this proposal. and on July 16, 2001, we met with representatives of the Six County Association of Governments and Sevier.

Because of the of the reasons cited in our July 2, 2001. letter, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites, and requests consultation on proposed impacts to archeological sites and cultural resources that are our ancestral sites and traditional cultural properties. Therefore, we appreciate Surface Transportation Board and HDR's solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

And therefore, to assist us in determining if there are prehistoric properties in the proposed project area that are significant to the Hopi Tribe, we continue to look forward to receiving a copy of the archaeological survey and any information regarding project impacts on identified resources for review and comment.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma".

Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director  
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

Enclosure: July 2, 2001. letter to Sagebrush Consultants

xc: Victoria Rutson, Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board  
Russell J. Cowley, SCAOG, Sevier County Courthouse, P.O. Box 820, 250 North Main, Richfield, UT 84701  
Malcolm Nash, Director, Sevier County, Economic Development, 250 North Main, Richfield, UT 84701

THE



# HOPi TRIBE

Wayne Taylor, Jr.  
CHAIRMAN

Phillip R. Quochytewa, Sr.  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

July 2, 2001

Michael R. Polk, M.A., RPA, Principal Archaeologist, Owner  
Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C.  
3670 Quincy Avenue, Suite 203  
Ogden, Utah 84403

Dear Mr. Polk,

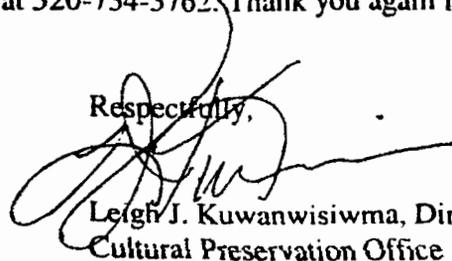
Thank you for your letter dated June 25, 2001, regarding a proposal by several counties and agencies in Central Utah to re-establish a rail line from Levan to Salina through Juab, Sanpete and Sevier Counties, over about 60 miles. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Utah, and therefore we appreciate your solicitation our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Tribe considers our ancestral villages, referred to as archaeological sites, to be Hopi Traditional Cultural Places. Other Hopi Traditional Cultural Places associated with our ancestral and modern Villages are shrines, trails, rock markings, and traditional gathering places. Hopi people consider prehistoric archaeological sites and isolated occurrences to be the "footprints" of our ancestors, and we do not consider our ancestral Villages to be "abandoned."

Therefore, the Hopi Cultural Preservation appreciates your request for our assistance, and we accept your invitation to participate as a consulting party during the development of the environmental document. To assist us in determining if there are prehistoric properties or Traditional Cultural Places in this area of potential effect, please provide us with a copy of a cultural resources survey, along with information regarding project impacts on identified resources, for review and comment.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Clay Hamilton at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office at 520-734-3102. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director  
Cultural Preservation Office

cc: Clay Hamilton, HCPO

*Handwritten note:* 1/6/02 marked