

DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.IN.gov

— EI 14564 etc
Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
Robert E. Carter, Jr., Director



March 10, 2009

Melanie Yasbin
Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer
Adams Building, Suite 301
600 Baltimore Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204-4022

Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Re: Project information concerning the Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis' intent to abandon 5.18 miles of line between milepost 181.26 and 183.64 and 2.8 miles between milepost 51.5 and milepost 54.3 (DHPA #5700)
AB-511 (Sub-No. 4X)

Dear Ms. Yasbin:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated February 5, 2009 and received on February 9, 2009, for the above indicated project in Kokomo, Howard County, Indiana.

Based upon the documentation available to the staff of the Indiana SHPO, we have not identified any archaeological resources listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places within the proposed project area. No archaeological investigations appear necessary provided that all project activities remain within areas disturbed by previous construction.

If any archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations.

In regard to buildings and structures, we have identified the following properties (per the 2003 *Howard County Interim Report*) within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that they may meet the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places:

Hansell Coal Company, 1300 W. Mulberry St., Site #067-323-46244
House, 121 S. Western Ave., Site #067-323-46265
Kokomo Rubber Plant, 1108 S. Main St., Site #067-323-46464
Haynes Automobile Company, S. Union St., Site #067-323-46470

In addition, we have identified the following properties within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that they meet the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places:

Courthouse Square (Downtown Kokomo) Historic District, roughly bounded by Taylor, Superior, Washington, and Union streets, Site #067-323-41001-069.

Norfolk & Western Railroad bridge crossing Wildcat Creek at milepost 53.95 on the South Kokomo line, c. 1900, steel Pratt through truss with timber beam approaches (Site #067-323-46146) is significant as an essentially intact turn of the century railroad structure featuring cut stone abutments and wingwalls. The former Peru & Indianapolis Railroad line served as an important transportation route in the region.

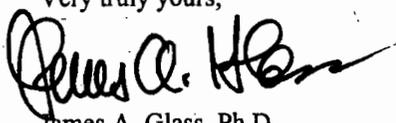
Based on the information provided to our office, we believe that there may be effects on the characteristics of the N & W Railroad bridge crossing Wildcat Creek at milepost 53.95 on the South Kokomo line that qualify it for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register (*see* 36 C.F.R. § 800.16[i]). To enable us to provide views on the effects 36 C.F.R. § 800.4(d)(2) for your agency, please provide the following information:

- 1) How will the N & W Railroad bridge at milepost 53.95 be used following the proposed abandonment? Will the bridge be preserved or restored for a new purpose, such as a pedestrian trail?
- 2) Will the bridge be owned and maintained by Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis or another party following the proposed abandonment of this segment of the South Kokomo line?

Once the indicated information is received, the Indiana SHPO will resume identification and evaluation procedures for this project. Please keep in mind that additional information may be requested in the future.

A copy of the revised 36 C.F.R. Part 800 that went into effect on August 5, 2004, may be found on the Internet at www.achp.gov for your reference. If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Cathy Draeger at (317) 234-3791 or cdraeger@dnr.IN.gov. If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Chad Slider at (317) 234-5366 or cslider@dnr.IN.gov. Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA #5700.

Very truly yours,



James A. Glass, Ph.D.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

JAG:CLD:CWS:cws

cc: David C. Navecky, Environmental Protection Specialist, Surface Transportation Board