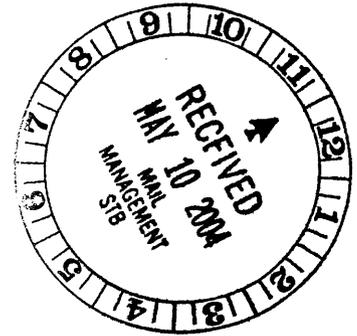




**COLORADO  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**



**The Colorado History Museum 1300 Broadway Denver, Colorado 80203-2137**

27 April 2004

The Honorable Vernon Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20423

ET-805  
KB

RE: Docket No. AB-857, Great Western Railway of Colorado LLC – Abandonment Exemption,  
Weld County, Colorado

Dear Secretary Williams:

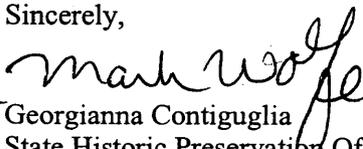
In August 2003 the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office reviewed the proposed abandonment of a section of the GWRC line in Weld County. Our review was made in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (36.CFR.800). On 27 August 2003 our office determined that the abandonment of the line the subsequent removal of trackage would have no adverse effect on the rail line provided that:

- 1) The grade of the rail bed was not changed during the track removal process;
- 2) The four bridges on the line be documented to HABS/HAER Level II standards, and;
- 3) That the five rail sidings on the line (Bruce, Severance, Hurrich, Tuber, and Gates) be documented to HABS/HAER Level II standards.

On 10 November 2003 GWRC notified the SHPO that it agreed with these terms. To that effect, on 20 November 2003 GWRC submitted photographs and documentation related to the four bridges and the five railroad sidings in accordance with HABS/HAER Level II documentation standards (as defined by the National Park Service). At this point we feel that the terms of the "Conditional No Adverse Effect" finding of 27 August 2003 have been met, and that review process has been completed.

If you have any questions, please contact Joseph Saldibar, Architectural Services Coordinator, at (303) 866-3741.

Sincerely,

For   
Georgianna Contiguglia  
State Historic Preservation Officer, and  
President, Colorado Historical Society



**OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

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