

AB-863

#E1-376
RR

CHARLES H. MONTANGE
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3 December 2003

Kenneth A. Westlake, Chief
Environmental Planning and Evaluation Branch
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

AB-863X

Re: STB dkt. AB 863, City of Venice, RR
Abandonment Exemption

Dear Mr. Westlake:

This responds in part to your letter dated November 24 to the Section of Environmental Analysis with respect to AB 863.

You raised a question concerning the elevated structure (timber open deck) on the line in Madison County, as portrayed in the historic report. You requested the opinion of the Illinois SHPO on that structure. By letter dated November 21, 2003, attached, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency determined no historic structures on the line. This letter covers all line structures.

In respect to the other issues in your letter, we have sought the advise of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and so far have not received any indication of a concern with respect to species or habitat.

City of Venice does not currently plan to undertake any salvage activities.

Very truly,

Charles H. Montange
for City of Venice

Att.
cc. Section of Environmental Analysis, STB
(w/att.)



**Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency**

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507 • Teletypewriter Only (217) 524-7128

Voice (217) 782-4836

Madison County

Venice

Railroad Abandonment Exemption

Milepost 1.45 from state line

STB-Docket #AB 863

IHPA Log #014110303

November 21, 2003

Charles Montange
426 NW 162nd St.
Seattle, WA 98177

Dear Mr. Montange:

We have reviewed the documentation submitted for the referenced project(s) in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4. Based upon the information provided, no historic properties are affected. We, therefore, have no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This clearance remains in effect for two years from date of issuance. It does not pertain to any discovery during construction, nor is it a clearance for purposes of the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 ILCS 3440). The Illinois Department of Transportation has already received approval from our office for the rehabilitation of the McKinley Bridge under IHPA Log #0201090031WMS.

If you have any further questions, please contact Cody Wright, Cultural Resources Manager, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, 217/785-3977.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Haaker
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

AEH