



**U. S. Department
of Transportation**

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

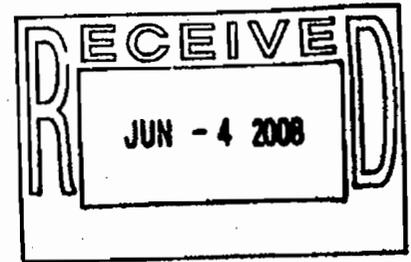
Region II

EI-7418

Baldwin Towers
1510 Chester Pike
Suite 660
Crum Lynne, PA 19022

June 2, 2008

Ms. Sandy Basehore
Skelly and Loy, Inc.
2601 North Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110



Dear Ms. Basehore:

Thank you for the letter to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Region 2 office concerning the reconstruction of the Beech Creek Branch between Wallaceton, PA and Gorton, PA. On behalf of the Surface Transportation Board, you had requested "information regarding potential resources with the project area that may be of concern as well as any permits and approvals that may be required."

The purpose of FRA is to: promulgate and enforce rail safety regulations; administer railroad assistance programs; conduct research and development in support of improved railroad safety and national rail transportation policy; provide for the rehabilitation of Northeast Corridor rail passenger service; and consolidate government support of rail transportation activities.

We have reviewed the documentation concerning the Beech Creek Line and the FRA has no permitting requirements concerning such a project. In addition, FRA is not and/or does not have a mandate or regulatory authority to comment on environmental impact issues.

I hope the above answers your inquiry; however, if you have any further questions please feel free to contact Mr. Christopher Schulte, Track Specialist Supervisor (610) 521-8201.

Thank you for your interest in railroad safety.

Sincerely,

David Myers
Regional Administrator