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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission  
Bureau for Historic Preservation  
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093  
www.phmc.state.pa.us

AB-290 (256-X)

December 2, 2004

R.P. Dietz  
Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Design & Construction  
175 Spring Street S.W., Box 142  
Atlanta, GA 30303

**TO EXPEDITE REVIEW USE  
BHP REFERENCE NUMBER**

Re: ER 05-0071-029-C  
STB Docket AB-290 (Sub-No. 256X) Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Abandonment of .80 miles of track, of the former Chester Valley  
Railroad, East Caln and West Whiteland Township, Chester County

Dear Mr. Dietz:

The Bureau for Historic Preservation (the State Historic Preservation Office) has reviewed the above named project in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1980 and 1992, and the regulations (36 CFR Part 800) of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as revised in 1999. These requirements include consideration of the project's potential effect upon both historic and archaeological resources.

Thank you for supplying additional photographs and mapping illustrating the integrity of this portion of the National Register eligible, Chester Valley Railroad through the Downingtown Quarry. We concur with your findings that this .80 (VR 19.72 to VR 18.92) has suffered a loss of integrity through its use by the quarry as a staging and storage area. Therefore, we concur that this portion of the eligible railroad is no longer contributing to the larger eligible resource and the proposed abandonment and disposition of the railroad right-of-way to the quarry will have no adverse effect on the remaining eligible railroad resource.

If you need further information in this matter please consult Susan Zacher at (717) 783-9920.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea MacDonald".

Andrea MacDonald, Chief  
Division of Preservation Services

Cc: STB  
AM/smz