



**Surface Transportation Board  
Uinta Basin Railway Environmental Impact Statement  
Section 106 Consulting Parties Teleconference Notes  
October 28, 2020**

**Meeting Participants**

Surface Transportation Board (STB), Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) – Alan Tabachnick, Joshua Wayland  
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) – Garry Cantley  
U.S. Forest Service (USFS) – Jeffrey Rust  
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – Rene Arce, Nicole Lohman, Bill Reitze  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) – Nicole Fresard  
Utah State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) – Savanna Agardy, Chris Merritt  
Utah Public Land Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) – Kris Carambelas  
Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) – Liz Robinson  
Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands (SITLA) – Joel Boomgarden  
Carbon County – Casey Hopes  
Duchesne County – Greg Todd  
Uintah County – Ross Watkins  
Seven County Infrastructure Coalition (Coalition) – Mike McKee  
HDR – Andrea Clayton, Cat Dobbs, Kevin Keller  
Jones and DeMille – Brian Barton  
Venable – Maggie Fawal, Kathryn Floyd  
SWCA – Anne Oliver  
VHB – Alan Summerville  
Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance – Jerry Spangler  
Nine Mile Canyon Coalition – Dennis Willis  
ICF – Colleen Davis, Debi Rogers, Mikenna Wolff

**Introductions, Background, and Project Updates**

- There have been no changes to the list of Consulting Parties and no changes to the project design since our last meeting.

**Status and Schedule Review**

- Alan reviewed the upcoming milestones in both the NEPA and Section 106 processes.

- The Draft EIS will be published on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Online public meetings will be held the week of November 16<sup>th</sup> and the week of November 30<sup>th</sup>. Dates and times for the public meetings will be published in the Draft EIS.
- The revised Draft Programmatic Agreement will be included as an attachment to the Draft EIS.
- The Historic Properties Technical Memorandum was sent to all Consulting Parties on October 23, 2020 for a 30-day review period. All Consulting Party comments on the Historic Properties Technical Memorandum are requested by November 23, 2020. This document will also be included as an attachment to the Draft EIS.

#### Programmatic Agreement (PA)

- OEA received comments on the draft PA from most Consulting Parties. There was very little duplication of comments. OEA tried to address all comments received to the greatest extent possible.
- OEA has made changes in the status change sections of the PA, both regarding land status and signatory status changes. OEA recognizes that the alternatives may affect certain Consulting Parties differently and have tried to make the PA better reflect this.
- A number of Consulting Parties made comments suggesting tiering of reviews between land managing agencies, the SHPO, and other consulting parties. OEA has incorporated a tiered review scheme.
- OEA has added in defined time periods for all reviews laid out in the PA, including OEA's review of Coalition products.
- NEPA language was retained in the revised Draft PA. OEA felt it was important to keep the NEPA language because of the connection between the EIS and the PA, particularly for mitigation.
- OEA has added more clarification about the potential expansion of the Area of Potential Effects.
- OEA incorporated language about state laws as they relate to the treatment of human remains.
- Consulting Parties did not have any questions on the revisions or further input on the Draft PA at this time.

#### Historic Properties Technical Memorandum

- Colleen reviewed the identification and evaluation process that OEA is using for this project. OEA is using a phased identification approach due to the multiple alternatives and length of the corridors. OEA has utilized the Coalition's field surveys to help prepare the Historic Properties Technical Memorandum.
- OEA has consulted with Consulting Parties and land managing agencies during the development of the Historic Properties Technical Memorandum and is now requesting Consulting Party review and comment on this draft document.

- In addition to the Consulting Party review period which ends on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Historic Properties Technical Memorandum will be available in the Draft EIS.

#### Next Steps

- Due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, OEA is proposing to move the dates for Consulting Party meetings over the next two months. OEA is tentatively targeting November 8, 2020 and December 9, 2020. If Consulting Parties have any concerns about these dates, please coordinate with Alan.
- Consulting Party Actions
  - Consulting Party should submit comments on the Historic Properties Technical Memorandum by November 23, 2020.