

Appendix 8.3-A

Cooperating Agency Letters



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

March 31, 2009

Colonel Philip T. Feir, District Engineer
Department of the Army
New England District, Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, Massachusetts 01742-2751

RE: Request to be a Cooperating Agency for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the South Coast Rail Project in Massachusetts

Dear Colonel Feir:

This letter responds to your March 17, 2009 request for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to participate as a cooperating agency during the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the South Coast Rail Project proposed by Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works. EPA New England agrees to participate as a cooperating agency during the preparation of the EIS for the project.

EPA intends to work as a cooperating agency within the limit of our resources to help define the scope of analysis, identify sources of information and to offer input on how specific issues should be addressed in the EIS. We encourage the Corps to continue to coordinate closely with local, state and federal agency representatives throughout the NEPA process.

If you have any questions about this letter or EPA's involvement in the EIS process, please contact Timothy Timmermann at 617-918-1025.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Higgins, Director
Office of Environmental Review

Administrative and Support Services
Environmental Review
Regulatory Review

RECEIVED

APR -7- 2009

REGULATORY REVIEW

617-918-1010

Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov/region1>



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Massachusetts Division

April 14, 2009

55 Broadway, 10th Floor
Cambridge, MA 02142-1093
617.494.3657
617.494.3355 fax
www.fhwa.dot.gov/madiv

In Reply Refer To:
HPE-MA

Philip T. Feir, District Engineer
Regulatory Division (CENAE-R)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742

Subject: South Coast Rail Project

Dear Mr. Feir:

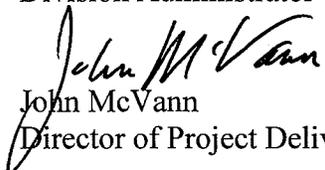
We are writing to respond to your March 17, 2009 request for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to participate as cooperating agency during the preparation of the Environmental Impacts Statement (EIS) for the South Coast Rail Project. The project intends to link Boston with the cities of New Bedford and Fall River, Massachusetts. The US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) is the lead agency for the preparation of the EIS pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and its implementing regulations contained in 40CFR 1500-1508.

The FHWA hereby accepts your invitation to participate as a cooperating agency. In particular, we will be providing input within our expertise and jurisdiction in the development of alternatives that satisfy the purpose and need of the project.

Please contact Damaris Santiago at (617) 494-2419 should you have any comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Lucy Garliauskas
Division Administrator

By: 
John McVann
Director of Project Delivery

MOVING THE
AMERICAN
ECONOMY



cc: Kristina Egan, South Coast Rail Project Manager, EOT
Alicia Barton, MEPA Director, EOEEA



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION I
Connecticut, Maine,
Massachusetts,
New Hampshire,
Rhode Island, Vermont

Volpe Center
55 Broadway Suite 920
Cambridge, MA 02142-1093
617-494-2055
617-494-2865 (fax)

MAY 15 2009

Philip T. Feir, Colonel
Department of the Army
New England District, Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742

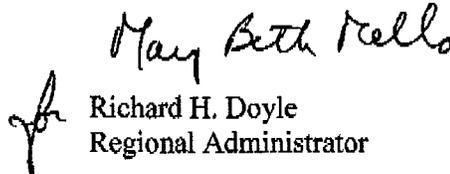
Attn: Alan R. Anacheka-Nasemann, PWS

Re: South Coast Rail Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Colonel Feir:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has reviewed the letter from the Army Corps of Engineers dated March 17, 2009 inviting the FTA to be a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of a Federal Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed South Coast Rail project. The FTA looks forward to participating in the environmental review process. The FTA Region I's point of contact is Peter Butler. Peter can be reached at 617-494-2729 or peter.butler@dot.gov.

Sincerely,


Richard H. Doyle
Regional Administrator

From: david.valenstein@dot.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2010 1:45 PM
To: Alan.R.Anacheke-nasemann@usace.army.mil; richard.cogswell@dot.gov
Cc: Katherine.Kauffman@dot.gov; randall.dickinson@dot.gov; janet.lee@dot.gov;
Karen.K.Adams@usace.army.mil; Veraart, Nicolaas; les.fiorenzo@dot.gov;
John.P.Almeida@usace.army.mil; Susan.E.Holtham@usace.army.mil;
Kathleen.A.Atwood@usace.army.mil
Subject: RE: Federal EIS - South Coast Rail, Massachusetts
Sensitivity: Confidential

Dear Mr. Anacheke-Nasemann:

FRA belatedly accepts your invitation to serve as a cooperating agency for the South Coast Rail EIS. We apologize for the delaying in responding. FRA will serve as a cooperating agency to lend our special expertise related to railroad planning and due to the potential for impact to the Northeast Corridor intercity rail service operated by Amtrak. Mr. Cogswell will provide comments to you regarding the technical railroad planning and operations analysis that have been prepared for this project.

The FRA HQ Office of Railroad Development is responsible for all planning and environmental activities and all EIS coordination should be conducted through this office. It is appropriate for the Cambridge office to be consulted on safety issues.

Sincerely,

David Valenstein

Environmental Team Leader
Office of Passenger and Freight Programs
USDOT Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, MS-20, W38-303
Washington, DC 20590

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