



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

REGION X
Alaska, Idaho, Oregon,
Washington

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March 14, 2011

Joni Earl
Executive Director
Sound Transit
401 S. Jackson St.
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: NEPA Re-evaluation of Tukwila Station Design Modifications

Dear Ms. Earl:

In March 2009, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) with respect to a proposed Sound Transit station at Tukwila, Washington, on Sound Transit's Seattle-to-Tacoma Sounder line. Since that time, changes in circumstances have prompted Sound Transit to modify the station design to create what it calls the "North Option."

FTA's regulations at 23 CFR section 771.129(c) state:

After approval of the EIS, FONSI, or CE designation, the applicant shall consult with the Administration prior to requesting any major approvals or grants to establish whether or not the approved environmental document or CE designation remains valid for the requested Administration action. These consultations will be documented when determined necessary by the Administration.

FTA has reviewed information that Sound Transit submitted to us dated February 16, 2011 describing the North Option and describing the potential environmental effects of the modifications.

Based on our review of that information, FTA finds that the changes to the station design will not result in significant environmental impacts that were not considered in reaching our previous finding of no significant impacts. No additional environmental review is required at this time. Sound Transit remains obliged to implement the mitigation commitments contained in the FONSI except where they have been modified by the North Option design.

Ms. Joni Earl
March 15, 2011
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This letter confirms that Sound Transit has complied with the National Environmental Policy Act with respect to the modified Tukwila Station design. Please contact Dan Drais of this office (206-220-4465) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



R.F. Krochalis
Regional Administrator

cc (by email): Steve Kennedy