Narragansett Indian Tribe

January 17, 2017

Governor Gina M. Raimondo
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

On behalf of the Narragansett Indian Tribe, I am writing to express our deep concern regarding the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Tier 1 Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) proposed inclusion of a high-speed rail bypass, known as the "Old Saybrook to Kenyon Bypass, through Narragansett Tribal lands.

Tribal Concerns:

- The FRA's lack of proper notification (See E.O. 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments)
- The lack of communication and dialogue on the project
- Inclusion of Tribal lands
- Culturally Sensitive areas
- Impacts to tribal natural resources (water, wetlands, forest, wildlife, hunting/gathering activities)
- Impacts to surrounding landowners, farms, nature preserves, and historical sites

The Tribe opposes FRA proposed bypass and requests support from the State and the Federal Delegation by supporting the following:

- Keep the railroad on its current Right of Way
- Request support for the extension of the comment period on the Tier 1 Final EIS to April 1, 2017.
- Request for continued consistent communication with the Governor's Administration as we move forward on this issue.

Sincerely,

Dinalyn Spears

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