## **Appendix 8.1-B**

# **Scoping Invitation Letters**



April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Joyce A. Stanley, MPA, Regional Environmental Protection Specialist Environmental Policy & Compliance – Region 4 75 Spring Street SW, Suite 1144 Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Stanley:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

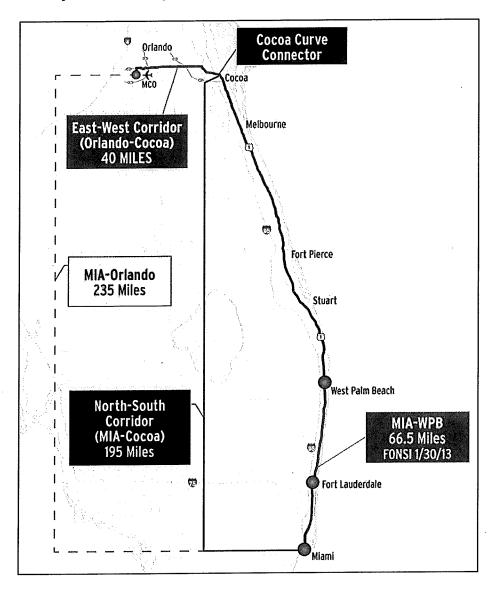
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Michelle Reiber, Director, Environmental Resource Ruglation St. John Water Management District 4049 Reid Street Highway 100 West Palatka, Florida 32177

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Reiber:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

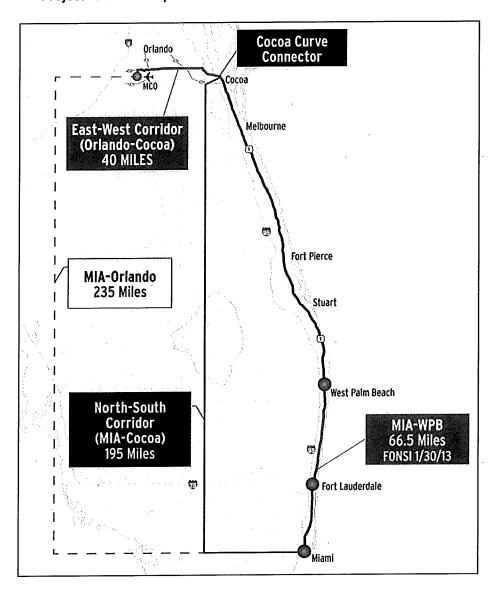
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development



,										
								·		
					•					
				•					4	
				į.		•				
									•	
									,	
				•						
	•									
								·		



April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Anita Bain, Bureau Chief, Environmental Resource Permitting South Florida Water Management District 3301 Gun Club Road, MSC 2420 West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Bain:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

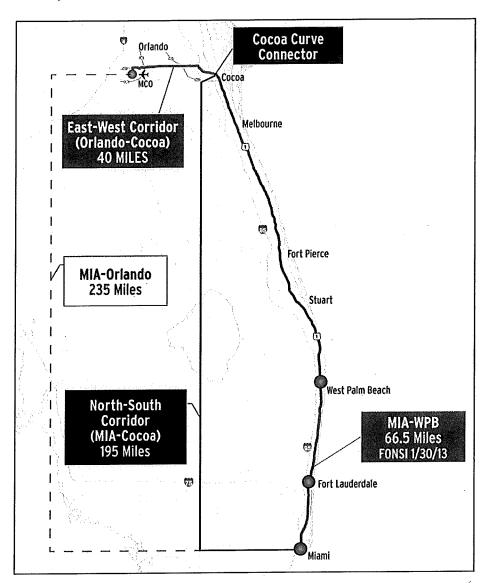
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3



	•				
				,	
				•	
		·			
			t		



April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Donnie Kinard, Chief Regulatory Division USACE 701 San Marco Blvd P.O. Box 4970 Jacksonville, VL 30303

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Kinard:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community
   Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

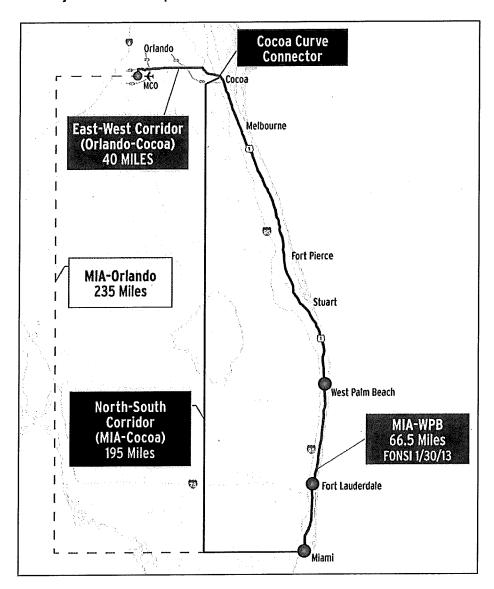
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Timothy Parsons Compliance Review Supervisor SHPO 500 South Bronough Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Parsons:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

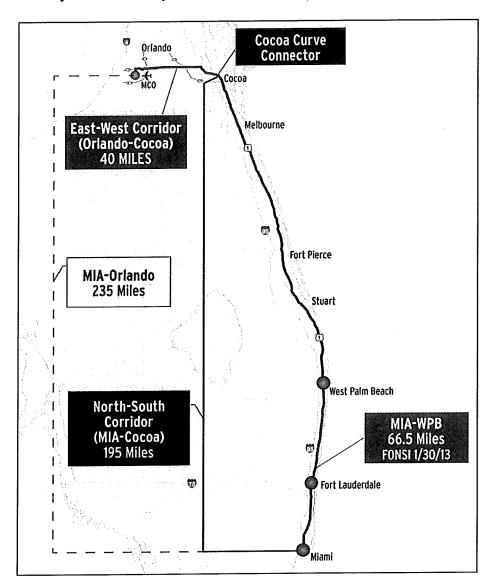
Very truly yours

Catherine Dobbs

**Transportation Industry Analyst** 

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Kelly Samek, Coastal Program Admin. Protection Florida Coastal Management Program 3900 Commonwealth Blvd. MS 47 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Samek

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

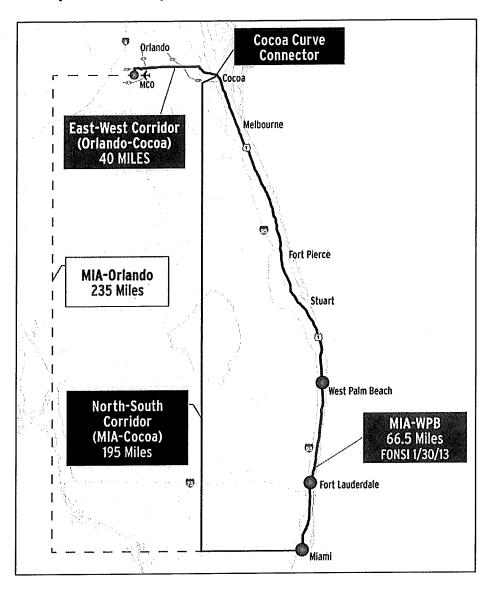
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Roney Gutierrez, Assistant State Conservationist USDA 2614 NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street Gainesville, FL 32606

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Gutierrez:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

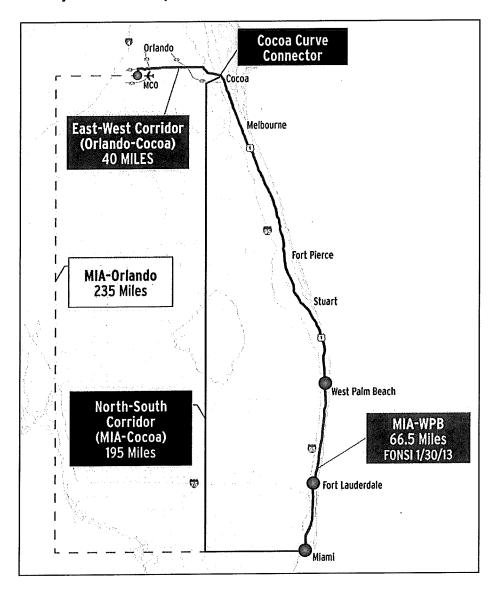
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Isa a Standley for

Page 3





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Rosalind Moore, Wetland Conservation Manager USDA 2614 NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street Gainesville, FL 32606

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Moore:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

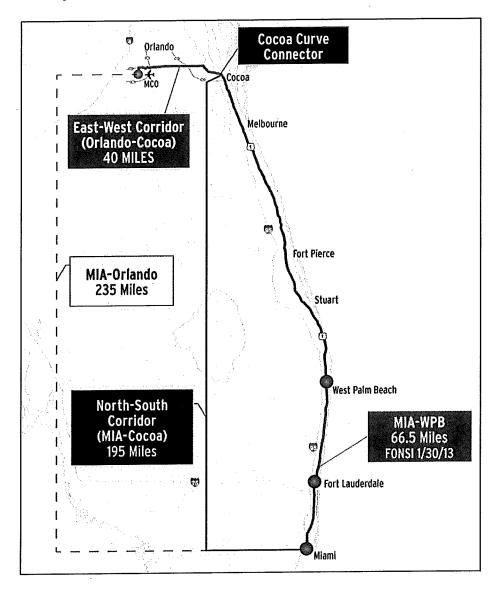
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development



		,	
,			



April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Evelyn Smart, Environmental Protection USCG Seventh Coast Guard District 909 S.E. First Ave., Room 432 Miami, FL 33131

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Smart:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

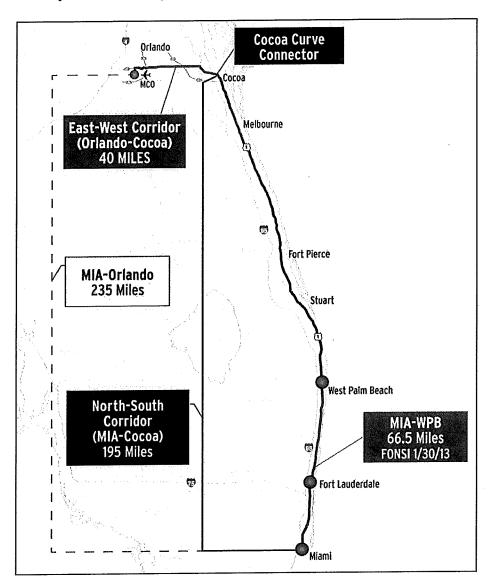
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

**Transportation Industry Analyst** 

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Barry Dragon, Program USCG Seventh Coast Guard District 909 S.E. First Ave., Room 432 Miami, FL 33131

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Dragon:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

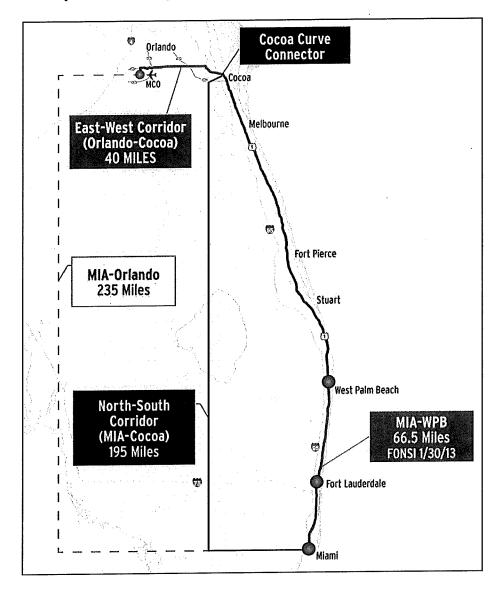
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:listandley@vhb.com">listandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

**Transportation Industry Analyst** 

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Andrew Phillips, Project Manager USACE 400 High Point Drive Suite 600 Cocoa, FL 32926

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Phillips:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

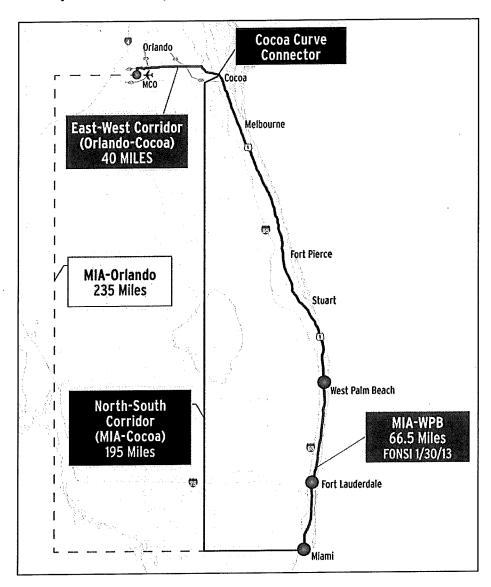
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

All Aboard Florida Project No.: 61827 April 23, 2013

Page 3





April 23, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Osvaldo Collazo, Chief North Permits Branch USACE 701 San Marco Blvd P.O. Box 4970 Jacksonville, VL 30303

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Osvaldo:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

 ${
m Hotel}$  – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel.
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

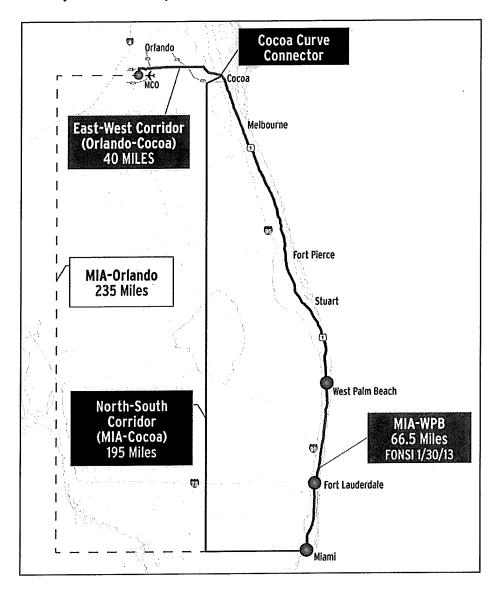
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Virginia Lane, Environmental Program Specialist EPA – Office of Accountability 5950 Hazeltine National Drive Citadel International Building, Suite 400 Orlando, FL 32822

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Lane:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

 $\rm Hotel-Milan$  Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

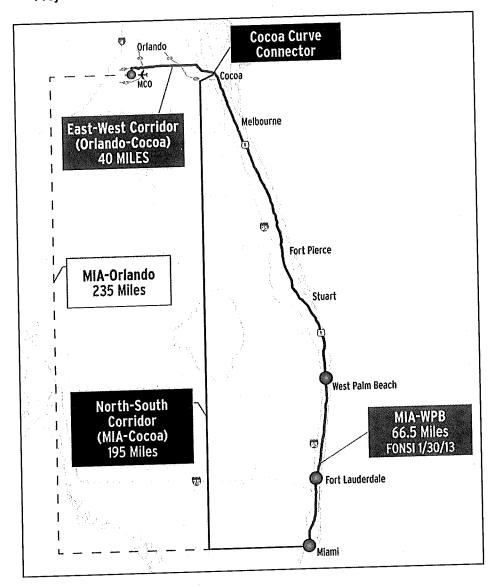
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

lisa Standley for

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Karen Brunelle, Director FHWA – Florida Division Office 545 John Knox Road, Suite 200 Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Brunelle:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="listandley@vhb.com">listandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

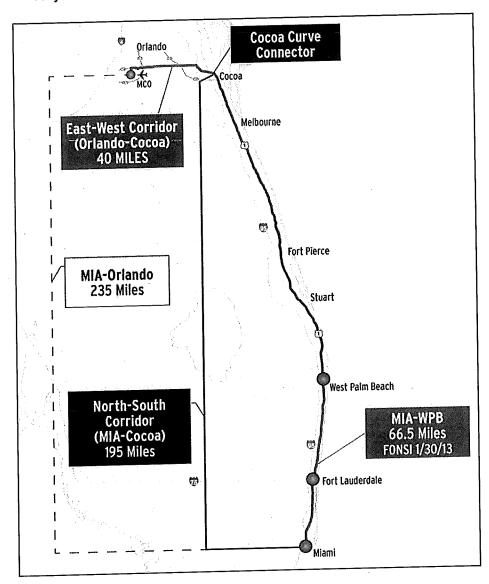
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

lisa & Shundley for

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Heinz Mueller, Chief EPA Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Accountability 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Mueller:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center - Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-">http://e-</a> meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (lstandley@vhb.com, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

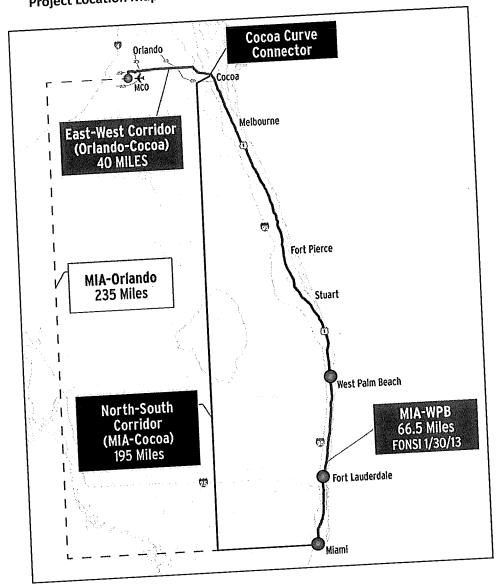
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

lesa a Standley for

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3



		•		
				•



April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Henry Sniezek Director Broward County Planning and Environmental Regulation 1 North University Drive Room 102A Plantation, FL 33324

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Sniezek:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-">http://e-</a>  $\underline{meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings\&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.psg.$
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed 3.

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<u>lstandley@vhb.com</u>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

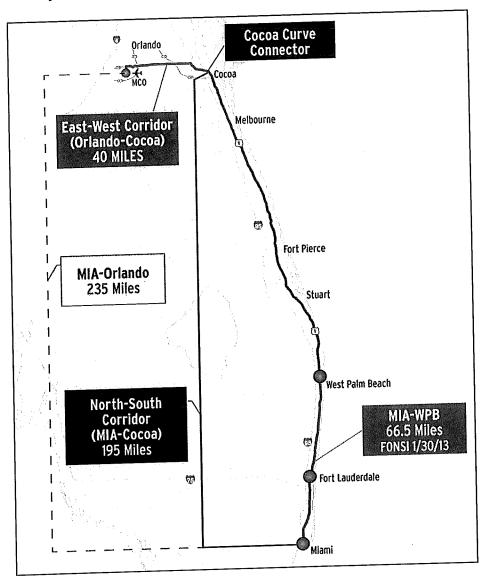
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

lisur Standley for

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3



•



April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Jeff Littlejohn, Deputy Secretary of Regulatory Programs 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard MS 15 Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Littlejohn:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKev=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKev=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

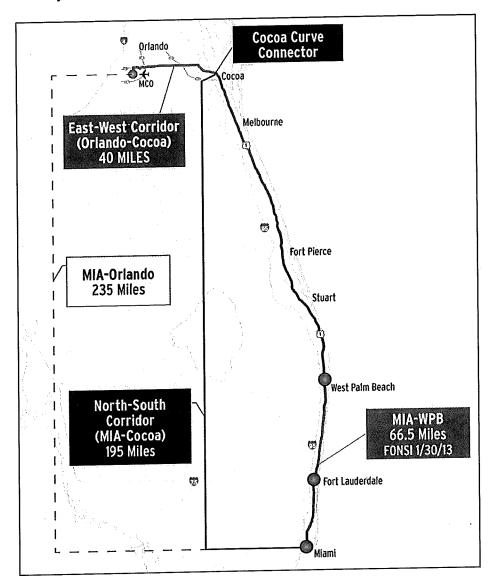
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

losa a skundley for

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Matthew Davis, Division Chief, Natural Resource Division Miami-Dade Department of Regulatory & Economic Resources 701 N.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Court 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Miami, FL 33136

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Davis:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

 ${
m Hotel-Milan\ Ballroom}$ , 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

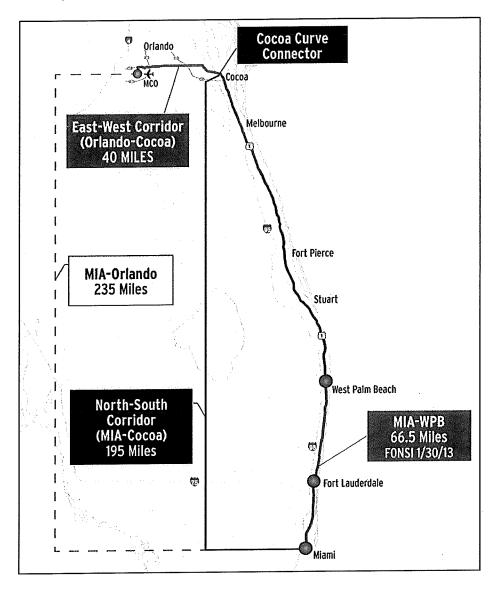
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

lisa a shundley for

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Brandon Howard, Fishery Biologist NOAA – National Marine Fishery Services 400 North Congress Avenue Suite 120 West Palm, FL 33401

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Howard:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

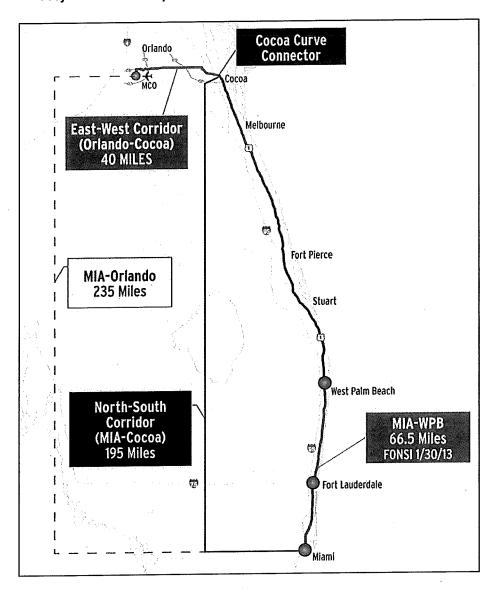
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:listandley@vhb.com">listandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Lori Cunniff, Manager Orange County Environmental Protection Agency 800 Mercy Drive, Suite 4 Orlando, Florida 32808

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Cunniff:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:listandley@vhb.com">listandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

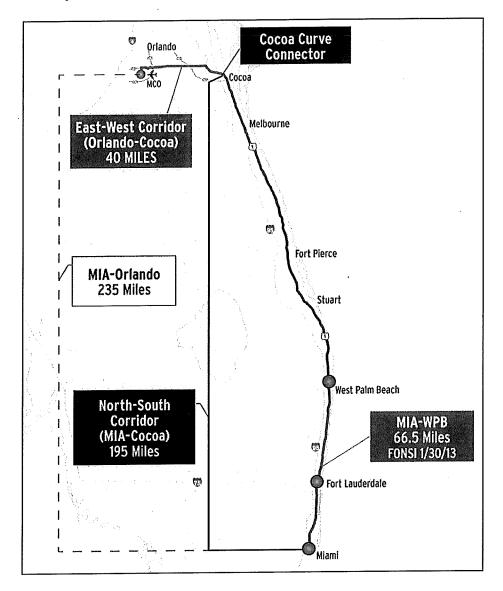
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Lisa a Standley for

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Daniel McClarnon, Archeologist SHPO 500 South Bronough Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. McClarnon:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

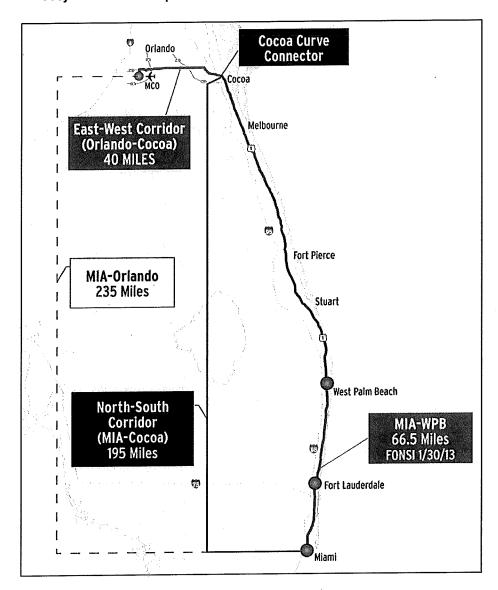
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

**Transportation Industry Analyst** 

Office of Railroad Policy and Development





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Eric Sutton, Director Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 620 S. Meridian Street Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Sutton:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

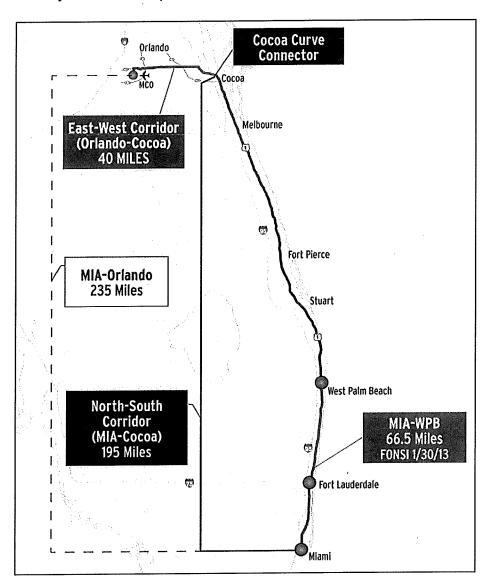
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Ginny Jones, Architectural Historian SHPO 500 South Bronough Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- Join the meeting by clicking on the link: http://emeetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c
- Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (lstandley@vhb.com, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

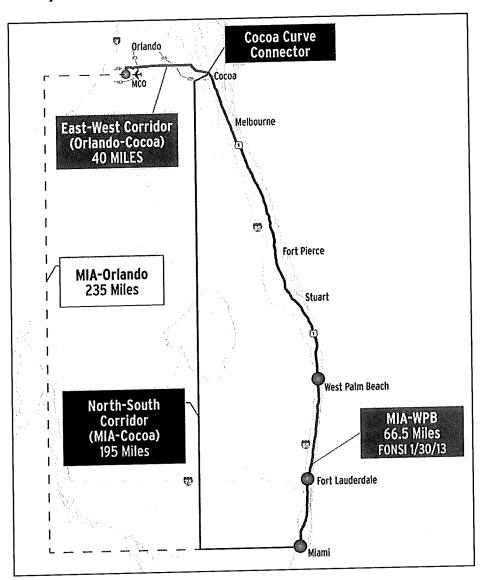
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

lisa a Standley for

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Cindy Fury, Project Leader Florida Caribbean Field Office U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services, Migratory Bird Division 61 Rozena Loop Havana, Florida 32333

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Fury:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center - Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-">http://e-</a> meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<u>lstandley@vhb.com</u>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the

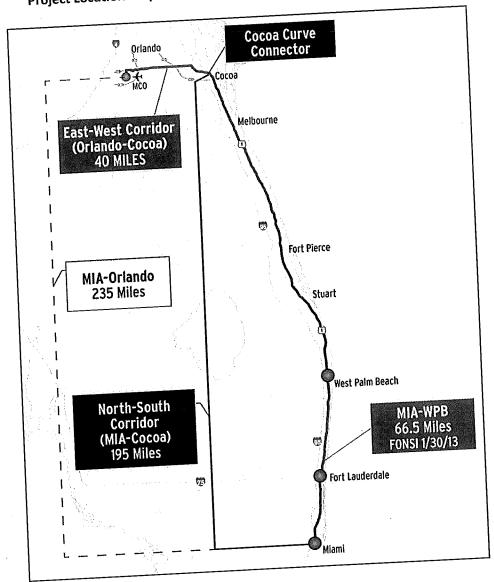
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Zakia Williams FWS – U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 7915 Baymeadows Way, Suite 200 Jacksonville, FL 32256

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Williams:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-">http://e-</a>  $\underline{meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings\&i=447069224\&p=\&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=capset.psg.werizonbusiness.com/nc/join.psg.w$
- Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<u>lstandley@vhb.com</u>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

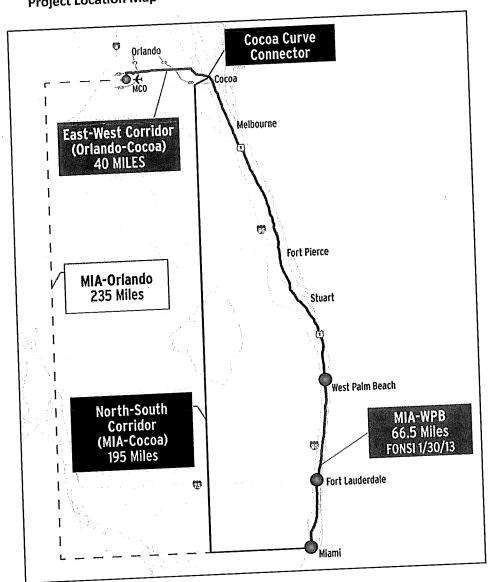
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ulgonda Kirkpatrick FWS – U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service/Migratory Bird Division P.O. Box 49208 Atlanta, GA 30359

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Kirkpatrick:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:listandley@vhb.com">listandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

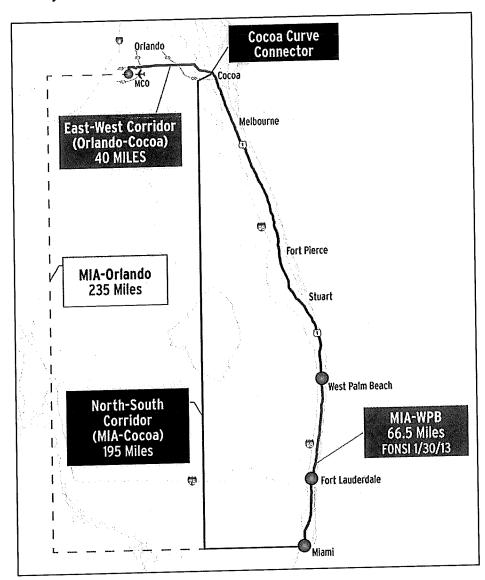
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

lisa a Shundhuj fu

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. David Keys, SERO NEPA Coordinator NOAA – NMFS 263 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Keys:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:listandley@vhb.com">listandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

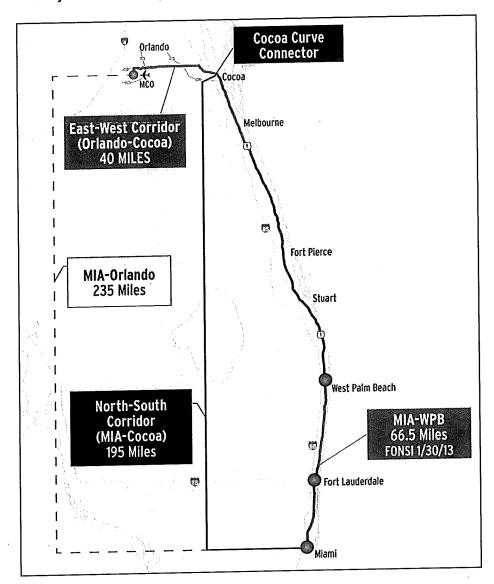
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Robert Bracheau, Senior Director of Planning and Engineering GOAA
Orlando International Airport
One Jeff Fuqua Blvd.
Orlando, Florida 32827

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Bracheau:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKev=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKev=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="mailto:listandley@vhb.com">listandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

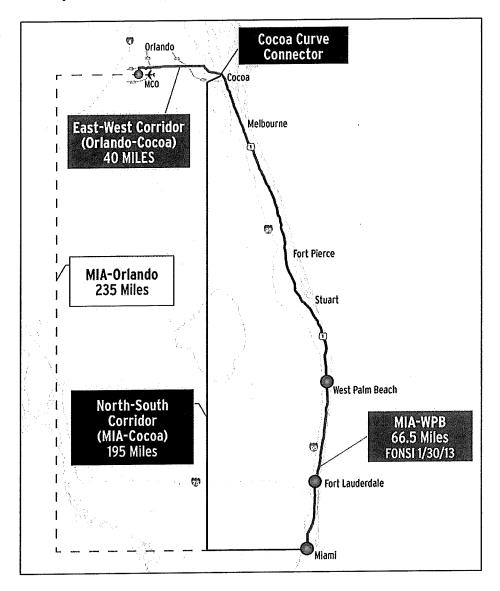
Very truly yours

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Resee Collins, Eagle Permit Coordinator U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services, Migratory Bird Division P.O. Box 49208 Atlanta, GA 30359

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Collins:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

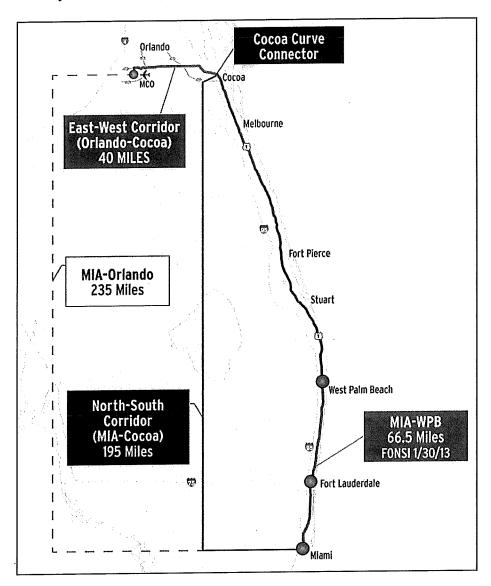
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development



• 



April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. John Wrublik FWS – U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 1339 20<sup>th</sup> Street Vero Beach, FL 32960

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Wrublik:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: http://e-
- Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (Istandley@vhb.com, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

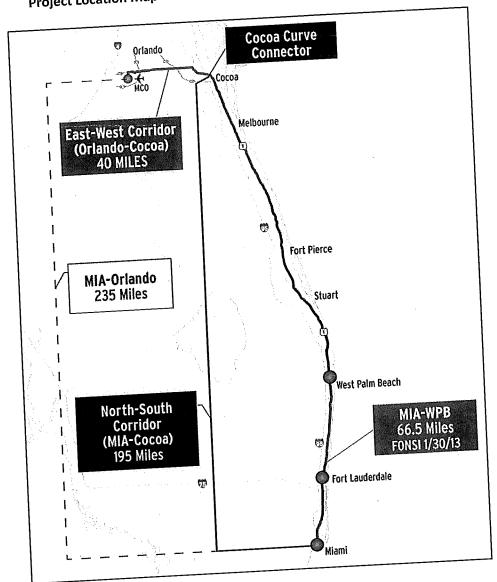
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Robert Bendus, Director SHPO 500 South Bronough Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Bendus:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport

Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

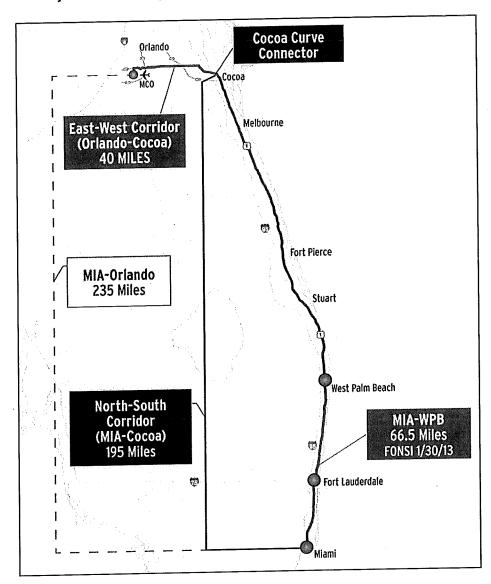
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

lisa h Standley for

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Sally B. Mann, Director Protection Office of Intergovernmental Programs 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard MS 47 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Mann:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

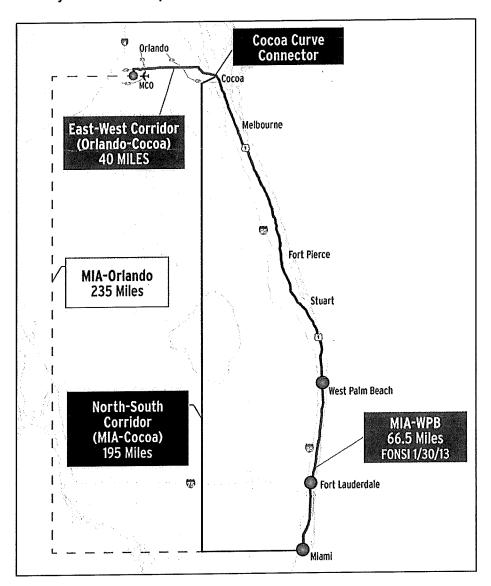
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3



. 



April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. Heath Rauschenberger, PhD., Project Consultant Chief FWS – U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 7915 Baymeadows Way, Suite 200 Jacksonville, FL 32256

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Rauschenberger:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-">http://e-</a>  $\underline{meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings\&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.psg.$
- Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<u>lstandley@vhb.com</u>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the

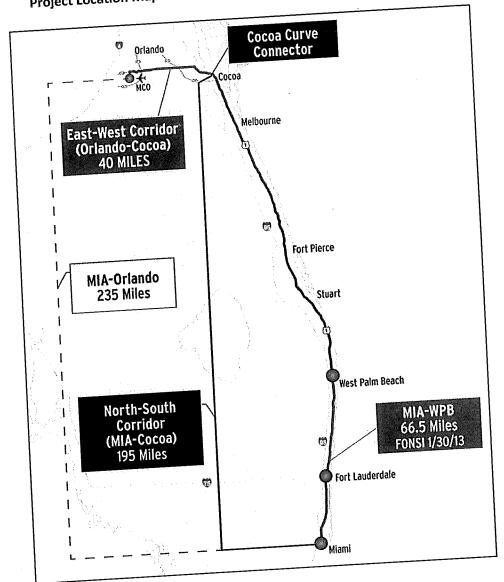
Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Mr. James L. Quinn, Program Administrator Protection Florida State Clearinghouse and Comprehensive Plan Review 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard MS 47 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Mr. Quinn:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center - Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-">http://e-</a>  $\underline{meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings\&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=caparter.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=caparter.php.$
- Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

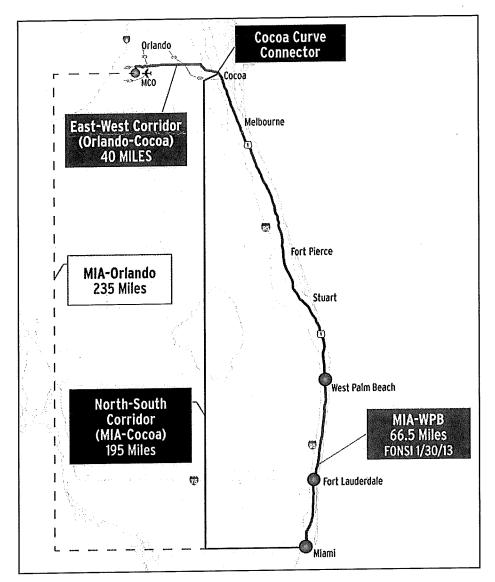
If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (lstandley@vhb.com, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Danielle Irwin, Deputy Division Director Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard MS 15 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Irwin:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- 3. Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number-877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

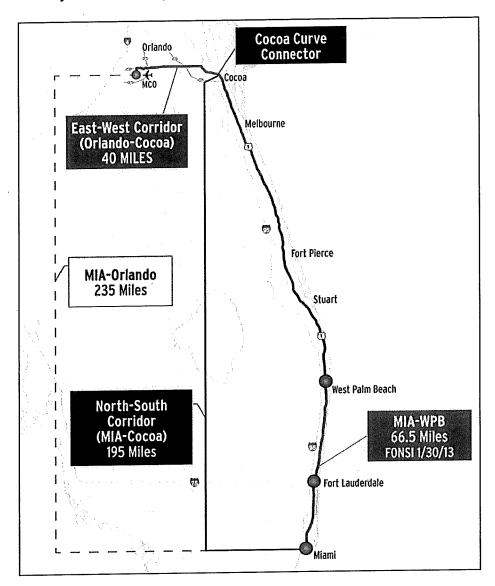
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

lin a Stundly for

Page 3



ĺ.



April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Marjorie Bixby, Manager, Environmental Management Office Florida State Environmental Management Office 605 Suwannee Street, MS 37 Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Bixby:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel – Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3rd Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: http://e- $\underline{meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings\&i=447069224\&p=\&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=\&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224\&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=mymeetings&i=44706924&p=&t=capacitors.php.sigKey=myme$
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<u>lstandley@vhb.com</u>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

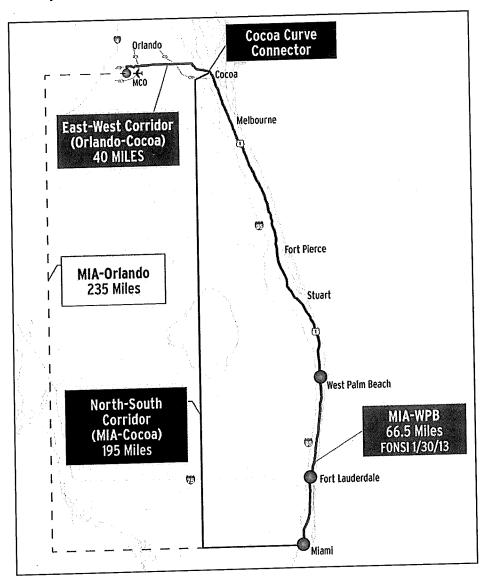
Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

lisa & Stundly for-

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3





April 22, 2013

Ref: 61827

Ms. Anita Barnett, Environmental Protection Specialist National Park Services 100 Alabama St., SW 1924 Building Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: All Aboard Florida Intercity Passenger Rail Service Scoping Invitation

Dear Ms. Barnett:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental and related impacts of constructing and operating an intercity passenger rail service proposed by the private company, All Aboard Florida – Operations LLC (AAF). Specifically, FRA is preparing an EIS for a 235-mile intercity passenger railroad system proposed by AAF that will connect Orlando and Miami, Florida, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, Florida (Project).

The purpose of the EIS will be to provide FRA, cooperating agencies, and the public with information to assess alternatives that will meet the Project's purpose and need, to evaluate potential environmental impacts, and to identify potential avoidance/mitigation measures associated with the proposed Project alternatives.

As shown on the attached area map, the proposed Project is composed of two connected corridors:

- (1) a north-south corridor of approximately 195 miles from Miami to Cocoa within an existing, active freight rail right-of-way, and
- (2) an east-west corridor of approximately 40 miles from Cocoa to the Orlando International Airport (MCO), general parallel to existing State Road 528.

FRA issued a finding of no significant impact on January 31, 2013, for passenger rail service and rail and station improvements proposed by AAF between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. The proposed Miami to Orlando passenger rail project would extend this service to MCO, and would use stations developed for the Miami to West Palm Beach service located in the central business districts of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. The proposed MCO station is expected to be developed by the Greater Orlando Airport Authority.

FRA has identified your agency as having a potential interest in this Project. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. 1501.6, FRA will be separately requesting agencies with major actions regarding the project to serve as a cooperating agency.

A series of scoping meetings will be held for this Project, and representatives from your agency are encouraged to attend. An open meeting specifically for Agency/Tribal personnel will be held on **May 1, 2013** from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Orlando, FL at the Renaissance Orlando Airport

Hotel-Milan Ballroom, 5445 Forbes Place. In addition, open house style public scoping meetings will be held on:

- May 1, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Orlando at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel,
- May 6, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Miami at the Culmer Center Multipurpose Room, 1600 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,
- May 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in West Palm Beach at the Gaines Park Community Center – Addie Greene Hall East, 1505 N. Australian Ave., and
- May 9, 2013 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Fort Pierce at the Havert L. Fenn Center Room 5, 2000 Virginia Ave.

You and/or a delegate of your choice are invited to represent your agency at any of these meetings. A Webex and teleconference will also be offered for the May 1 Agency/Tribal meeting if you prefer not to travel. Details are listed below:

- 1. Join the meeting by clicking on the link: <a href="http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c">http://e-meetings.verizonbusiness.com/nc/join.php?sigKey=mymeetings&i=447069224&p=&t=c</a>
- 2. Enter the required fields including contact information:
  - a. Meeting Number: 447069224
  - b. Passcode: No passcode is required
- Click Proceed

Teleconference Info:

Conference call-in phone number- 877-972-6055

Participant passcode: 7185887

If you have questions or would like to discuss your agency's respective role in the preparation of this EIS, please contact Catherine Dobbs at Catherine.dobbs@dot.gov or (202) 493-6347 or Lisa Standley (<a href="lstandley@vhb.com">lstandley@vhb.com</a>, 617-924-1770). VHB, Inc. is a third-party consultant assisting the FRA with preparing the EIS.

Very truly yours,

Catherine Dobbs

Transportation Industry Analyst

Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Page 3

