UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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OFFICE OF
ECOSYSTEMS, TRIBAL AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

December 15, 2010

Linda Gehrke, Deputy Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
915 Second Avenue, Suite 3142
Seattle, Washington 98174-1002

Re: EPA comments on the Hatcher Pass Recreational Area Access, Trails and Transit Facilities Project FEIS, EPA Project #08-064-FTA

Dear Ms. Gehrke:

We have reviewed the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the Hatcher Pass Recreational Area Access, Trails and Transit Facilities Project (CEQ #20100447) in accordance with our role as a participating agency, as well as our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. In addition, we acknowledge the October 12, 2010, letter from your agency describing in detail FTA's responses to EPA's comments on the draft EIS.

We believe our comments were adequately considered and addressed in your letter and the FEIS. While we continue to disagree with the terminology used for the description of future projects proposed by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, we believe that the potential impacts from these projects were properly evaluated. We also appreciate FTA's consideration of our recommendations for the mitigation of short-term air quality impacts from construction.

Thank you for the opportunity to act as a participating agency on this project and for the serious consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Curtis of my staff in Anchorage at (907) 271-6324 or by electronic mail at curtis.jennifer@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Christine B. Reichgott

Christine B. Reichgott, Manager
Environmental Review and Sediments Management Unit

Cc: Brad Sworts, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Heather Campfield, DOWL HKM
Kristen Hansen, DOWL HKM

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