October 23, 1969

Re: Project S-0850(6)
Chitina E., 1 Mile

Pete's Sundries and Magazines
P. O. Box 400
Cordova, Alaska 99574

Attention: Billy E. Lovseth

Dear Mrs. Lovseth,

We did receive the copies of the Quit Claim Deed you sent in regard to the parcel of land south of Lot 7, Block C, U. S. Survey 596, in the town of Chitina, Alaska.

Your curiosity may well be understood, but the wheels grind slowly and, as yet, until the last bit of information is received, which we are waiting for at present, we cannot give you a definite answer.

It has been noted that Copper Valley Trading Company does have a Statutory Quit Claim Deed encompassing the same property description from the executrix of the O. A. Nelson Estate dated September 3, 1963, which is eleven years later than your deed.

This however, is not the whole problem. It seems that the Copper River and Northwestern Railway Company abandoned the right of way on which this property is described, and executed a relinquishment to the United State on March 29, 1945. The right of way then descended eventually to the Bureau of Public Roads. The State of Alaska, through the Omnibus Act of June 25, 1959, procured all right, title and interest to the relinquished right of way.

The original patent was issued to the claim of Katalla Company, a subsidiary of Copper River and Northwestern Railway Company and the only claim of record found is that of O. A. Nelson on a statement of real property ownership which covers a part of the right of way. There is n o record found to confirm this conveyance which constitutes a break in the chain of title from Katalla Company to O. A. Nelson.

We have a plat coming which should establish this right of way survey and until it arrives, title cannot be definitely established.

We hope this is not too confusing and answers the question in your letter. We wish to extend our appreciation for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Tom W. Young
District Highway Engineer

Douglas M. Putnam
District Right of Way Agent

DMP/JEV/jl