

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology 402 W. Washington Street, W274 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 Fax 317-232-0693 dhpa@dnr.IN.gov



July 22, 2021

Adam Assenza
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
U.S. Department of Transportation
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Re: Surface Transportation Board's finding of "no historic properties affected" for the abandonment of 20.367 miles of interconnecting rail lines (AB-1065 Sub-No. 4X; DHPA #27507)

Dear Mr. Assenza:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. § 306108) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated July 9, 2021, and received on July 15, 2021, for the above indicated project in Smith and Robb townships of Posey County, and Armstrong and German townships of Vanderburgh County, Indiana.

As previously indicated, in terms of archaeology, no currently known archaeological resources eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places have been recorded within the proposed project area. No archaeological investigations appear necessary provided all project activities remain within areas of previous disturbance. There is currently insufficient evidence to indicate that any portion of the rail line retains integrity related to the original construction of the railroad. Should evidence suggest the contrary, those portions of the line with integrity should be archaeologically documented prior to removal.

Also as previously indicated, in regard to buildings and structures, we have identified the following properties within the probable area of potential effects, and we believe that they may meet the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places:

Railroad Trestle, site #129-146-00017
Poseyville Historic District, site# 129-178-07001-178

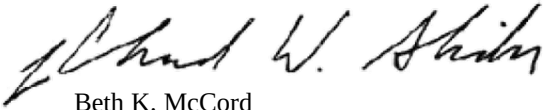
We note that the proposed project, in addition to abandoning the line, intends to remove rail and salvageable track material but will not disturb sub-grade features or structures and will leave all bridges in place. Therefore, based on the information provided to our office, we do not believe the characteristics that qualify the above identified historic properties for inclusion in the National Register will be diminished as a result of this project.

We concur with the Surface Transportation Board's July 9, 2021, finding that there are no historic buildings, structures, districts, objects, or archaeological resources within the area of potential effects that will be affected by the above indicated project.

If any prehistoric or historic archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to 36 C.F.R. 800.

A copy of the revised 36 C.F.R. Part 800 that went into effect on August 5, 2004, may be found on the Internet at www.achp.gov for your reference. If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Rachel Sharkey at (317) 234-5254 or rsharkey@dnr.IN.gov. If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Danielle Kauffmann at (317) 232-0582 or dkauffmann@dnr.IN.gov. Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA #27507.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth K. McCord". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Beth" being more prominent.

Beth K. McCord
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

BKM:DMK:dmk

emc: Crystal M. Zorbaugh, Baker and Miller PLLC
David Navecky, Surface Transportation Board
Adam Assenza, Surface Transportation Board