

From: [Katharine R. Kerr](#)
To: [Tabachnick, Alan](#)
Cc: [Wood, Diana](#)
Subject: RE: [External] RE: [External] Docket No. AB 1332X, Abandonment in Clarke County, GA
Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 4:25:39 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[ga.stb.clarke_county.partial_rail_abandonment_of_the_macon-athens_railway.20230922.np.pdf](#)

Mr. Tabachnick,

Thank you for looking into this and letting us know they are the same project. As such, our original non-participation letter from September 2023 still stands.

Thank you,

Katharine

From: Tabachnick, Alan <alan.tabachnick@stb.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2024 9:16 AM
To: Katharine R. Kerr <kkerr@achp.gov>
Cc: Wood, Diana <Diana.Wood@stb.gov>
Subject: [External] RE: [External] Docket No. AB 1332X, Abandonment in Clarke County, GA

Good morning. Yes, these are the same project. Sorry for any confusion here. We will continue to consult with the SHPO on the terms of the MOA to resolve the adverse effects, and file the executed MOA with the ACHP. Thank you.

Alan Tabachnick

Federal Preservation Officer
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E St SW
Washington, DC 20423

202-245-0367 (o)
202-934-8469 (e)
alan.tabachnick@stb.gov

From: Katharine R. Kerr <kkerr@achp.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 4:29 PM
To: Tabachnick, Alan <alan.tabachnick@stb.gov>
Cc: Wood, Diana <Diana.Wood@stb.gov>
Subject: RE: [External] Docket No. AB 1332X, Abandonment in Clarke County, GA

You don't often get email from kkerr@achp.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

The ACHP is in receipt of your notification regarding the proposed abandonment of a line of railroad located in Clarke County, GA by Athens Transportation Partners.

In reviewing our database, the ACHP has a very similar notification from August 2023 regarding Athens Transportation Partners abandonment of a portion of the Macon-Athens Railroad. In reviewing that documentation, these projects appear to be the same. I have attached the August 2023 notification we received for your reference.

Please let us know if they are the same project or if they are two separate projects.

Thank you,

Katharine

Katharine R. Kerr
Digital Operations Coordinator
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChReeJ63BktsEqSidL396Ng>

From: Tabachnick, Alan <alan.tabachnick@stb.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 3:27 PM

To: e106 <e106@achp.gov>

Cc: Wood, Diana <Diana.Wood@stb.gov>

Subject: [External] Docket No. AB 1332X, Abandonment in Clarke County, GA

Attached please find the e106 submittal for the proposed abandonment of a segment of the eligible Macon-Athens Railway line, located in Clarke County, GA. The line was previously determined eligible. The proposed abandonment would include the salvage of all railroad infrastructure within the right-of-way so that it could be converted to a multi-modal connectivity corridor. The SHPO reviewed the materials submitted to them and noted that the railway line was eligible and that the abandonment would be an adverse effect. OEA reviewed all of the project materials, as well as the SHPO's letter, and determined that the proposed abandonment could have an adverse effect on

historic properties, and a memorandum of agreement would be needed.

I have included substantial information on the case, the environmental and historic report, and the SHPO's letter (in the documentation package). OEA is formally notifying the ACHP of the agency's finding of adverse effect and inviting the ACHP to participate in the consultation to resolve adverse effects. OEA intends to continue to work with the GA SHPO on a MOA to resolve the adverse effect and does not anticipate any complications

Thanks very much and please reach out to me with any questions.

Alan Tabachnick

Federal Preservation Officer
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E St SW
Washington, DC 20423

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alan.tabachnick@stb.gov



September 22, 2023

Mr. Alan Tabachnick
FPO/Historic Preservation Specialist
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Ref: *Abandonment of a Segment of the Macon-Athens Railway Line*
Athens, Clarke County, Georgia
ACHP Project Number: 19998

Dear Mr. Tabachnick:

On August 31, 2023, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) received your notification and supporting documentation regarding the potential adverse effects of the referenced undertaking on a property or properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Based upon the information you provided, we have concluded that Appendix A, *Criteria for Council Involvement in Reviewing Individual Section 106 Cases*, of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), does not apply to this undertaking. Accordingly, we do not believe our participation in the consultation to resolve adverse effects is needed.

However, if we receive a request for participation from the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, affected Indian tribe, a consulting party, or other party, we may reconsider this decision. Should the undertaking's circumstances change, consulting parties cannot come to consensus, or you need further advisory assistance to conclude the consultation process, please contact us.

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6(b)(1)(iv), you will need to file the final Section 106 agreement document (Agreement), developed in consultation with the Georgia SHPO and any other consulting parties, and related documentation with the ACHP at the conclusion of the consultation process. The filing of the Agreement and supporting documentation with the ACHP is required in order to complete the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA.

Thank you for providing us with your notification of adverse effect. If you have any questions or require our further assistance, please contact Ms. Emily Choi at (202) 517-0207 or by e-mail at echoi@achp.gov and reference the ACHP Project Number above.

Sincerely,

LaShavio Johnson
Historic Preservation Technician
Office of Federal Agency Programs