



West Virginia Department of
**ARTS, CULTURE
AND HISTORY**

December 17, 2024

The Culture Center
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Randall Reid-Smith, Cabinet Secretary

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EEO/AA Employer

Scott Plum
Director, Strategic Planning
Norfolk Southern Railway Company
650 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30308
Via email: scott.plum@nscorp.com

RE: Abandonment of Rail Line near Matewan, Mingo County
STB Docket AB 290-417X
FR#: 25-0103-MO-1

Dear Mr. Plum:

We have reviewed the additional information submitted in support of the above-mentioned project. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800: "Protection of Historic Properties," we submit our comments.

Our office in a letter dated November 8, 2024 requested more information regarding an overpass that was not accounted for in the original submission. Additional information has been received regarding two overpasses on the proposed abandoned 3.5 mile rail line near Matewan in Mingo County. Thank you for the submission of two Historic Property Inventory (HPI) forms, one for each overpass. We appreciate you verifying these structures. It is our opinion that these overpasses do not possess the historic character or significance to meet the criteria for evaluation for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. It is also our opinion that the proposed abandonment project will have no effect on any architectural resources eligible for or included in the National Register. No further consultation is necessary regarding historic resources; however, we ask that you contact our office if your project should change.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. *If you have questions regarding our comments or the Section 106 process, please contact Abigail M. Ayers, Structural Historian, at (304) 558-0240.*

Sincerely,

Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/AMA