

Brian P. Kemp
Governor

Christopher Nunn
Commissioner



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
of COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

September 2, 2025

Alan Tabachnick
Federal Preservation Officer
Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street Southwest Washington, DC 20423

**RE: Compliance with Memorandum of Agreement
Proposed Rail Abandonment: Macon-Athens Railroad,
Oconee River to F-MP 105.3, Athens
Clarke County, Georgia
HP-230522-001**

Dear Mr. Tabachnick:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has received the mitigation documentation for the above referenced project. Our review of this document is in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the above referenced undertaking, which HPD signed October 21, 2024.

HPD has reviewed the final photographic permanent archival record (PAR) for the Athens Branch of the Macon & Northern (MACN) Railway in accordance with Stipulation I of the MOA. In our opinion, the document has been produced in accordance with guidance provided in Stipulation I of the MOA and HPD's *Guidelines for Establishing a Photographic Permanent Archival Record* and is adequate mitigation of the adverse effects associated with this undertaking. Therefore, it is HPD's opinion that Stipulation I of the MOA has been satisfied. With Stipulation I fulfilled; the MOA is considered complete.

Per the MOA, please send an archival copy of the mitigation documentation to the Director of the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) and the University of Georgia Athens (UGA) Library. Please refer to project number **HP-230522-001** in any future correspondence regarding this project. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Margot McLaughlin, Environmental Review Historian, at (404) 679-4839 or Margot.McLaughlin@dca.ga.gov

Sincerely,

Stacy Rieke, MHP
Program Manager
Environmental Review & Preservation Planning

SMR/mem

cc: Terri Gillett, New South Associates, Inc.
Anna Ingwersen, CHA Consulting
Jody Graichen, Northeast Georgia Regional Commission
Beth Eavenson, DCA Regional Commission, Region 5

