

Wayland, Joshua

From: Kitty Henderson <kitty@historicbridgefoundation.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 5:49 PM
To: Wayland, Joshua
Cc: Lydia Woods
Subject: Fwd: Notification of Adverse Effect--Railroad Abandonment in Baytown, Texas

Mr. Wayland

Lydia Woods at the Texas Historical Commission forwarded me your most recent email regarding the bridge in Baytown, Texas. I note that you sent her a document "explaining the Board's role in the abandonment process." Since the THC ask you to invite us to be a consulting party and I believe I notified you HBF would like to be a consulting party, please forward that document and any other related materials to me at the address below or by email and make sure we are copied on all emails related to this project.

Thank you,

Kitty Henderson
 Executive Director
 Historic Bridge Foundation
 PO Box 66245
 Austin, Texas 78766
 512 407 8898

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lydia Woods <Lydia.Woods@thc.texas.gov>
Subject: FW: Notification of Adverse Effect--Railroad Abandonment in Baytown, Texas
Date: November 14, 2016 at 4:35:29 PM CST
To: Kitty Henderson <kitty@historicbridgefoundation.com>

From: Wayland, Joshua [<mailto:Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 4:30 PM
To: Lydia Woods <Lydia.Woods@thc.texas.gov>
Subject: RE: Notification of Adverse Effect--Railroad Abandonment in Baytown, Texas

Ms. Woods,

I am following up regarding the above referenced case; were you able to review the document explaining the Board's role in the abandonment process? I was also hoping that you might be able to recommend a contact at the Army Corps of Engineers that may have some experience with bridges in east Texas. Is there an office or individual that you work with often at that agency? Thank you so much as always for your help.

Best,

Josh Wayland

Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Tel: (202) 245-0330

From: Lydia Woods [<mailto:Lydia.Woods@thc.texas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 2:28 PM
To: Joshua Wayland <Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>
Cc: kitty@historicbridgefoundation.com; Linda Henderson <Linda.Henderson@thc.texas.gov>
Subject: RE: Notification of Adverse Effect--Railroad Abandonment in Baytown, Texas

Mr. Wayland,

Thank you for the clarification of your involvement with 4(f). As you requested this morning, here is the exact wording from Section 106 discussing the additional information we require before we can move forward to mitigation.

36 CFR Part 800-Protection of Historic Properties § 800.6 – Resolution of adverse effects states:
(a) *Continue consultation.* The agency official shall consult with the SHPO/THPO and other consulting parties, including Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, to develop and evaluate alternatives or modifications to the undertaking that could avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effect on historic properties.

We understand that due to the abandonment of the rail line that a replacement bridge is not proposed at this time. However, this still means that you or Union Pacific need to provide information showing that you have considered alternative solutions that could avoid and solutions that could minimize the adverse effect, which is the demolition of the bridge. For example, in other Section 106 projects that we have seen where rail lines are being decommissioned, the railroad will look into removing the rail line approaches, while leaving the bridge in place. Rail lines have also been turned into walking trails and the bridges are repurposed for walking traffic. If needed, a consulting party can be brought in to look into possible alternatives for avoiding and minimizing the adverse effect. We need to understand how UP and the STB came to the conclusion that demolishing the bridge would be the best solution to the abandonment of the bridge before we move forward to mitigation possibilities.

If you have any additional questions please let me know.

Thank You,

Lydia Woods
East Texas Project Reviewer
Architecture Division
Texas Historical Commission
PO Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711-2276
512-463-9122
www.thc.texas.gov



From: Joshua Wayland [<mailto:Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 11:19 AM
To: Lydia Woods <Lydia.Woods@thc.texas.gov>
Cc: kitty@historicbridgefoundation.com; Linda Henderson <Linda.Henderson@thc.texas.gov>
Subject: RE: Notification of Adverse Effect--Railroad Abandonment in Baytown, Texas

Hi Lydia,

The Surface Transportation Board is an independent decision-making body separate from DOT, so Section 4(f) doesn't directly apply to Board actions. It does come up occasionally in rail construction cases where there are road crossings that would be constructed under DOT authority or using DOT funds that would affect 4(f) properties, but I am not aware of any 4(f) review in past abandonment cases.

My understanding is that TxDOT may end up having a role in this project and they would certainly have 4(f) responsibilities. I will reach out to the railroad to clarify this and see who to contact at TxDOT in case they need to be brought into this discussion.

Best,

Josh Wayland

Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board

From: Lydia Woods [<mailto:Lydia.Woods@thc.texas.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 11:41 AM
To: Joshua Wayland <Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>
Cc: kitty@historicbridgefoundation.com; Linda Henderson <Linda.Henderson@thc.texas.gov>
Subject: RE: Notification of Adverse Effect--Railroad Abandonment in Baytown, Texas

Mr. Wayland,

Thank you for copying me on the information you submitted to the ACHP. Since we do not often work with the Surface Transportation Board I am inquiring how STB manages their possible 4(f) requirements.

Thank you,

Lydia Woods
East Texas Project Reviewer
Architecture Division
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PO Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711-2276
512-463-9122
www.thc.texas.gov



From: Joshua Wayland [<mailto:Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2016 3:45 PM
To: e106@achp.gov
Cc: mackshumate@up.com; Lydia Woods
<Lydia.Woods@thc.texas.gov>; kitty@historicbridgefoundation.com; aschmidt@summite.com
Subject: Notification of Adverse Effect--Railroad Abandonment in Baytown, Texas

The attached documents pertain to a proposed railroad abandonment in Harris and Chambers Counties, Texas. Union Pacific Railroad company intends to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board to abandon approximately 2.23 miles of rail line in Baytown, Texas, which could result in the removal or alteration of a vertical lift span bridge over Cedar Bayou, a historic property that is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The purpose of this notification is to (1) notify the ACHP of a finding that an undertaking may adversely affect historic properties, and (2) invite the ACHP to participate in Section 106 consultation. Please contact me at the number below if you need additional information.

Best regards,

Josh Wayland
Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board