



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology-402 W. Washington Street, W274 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739  
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July 19, 2017

EI - 26151  
KB

Tom McFarland  
Thomas F. McFarland, P.C.  
208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1666  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Federal Agency: Surface Transportation Board ("STB")

Re: Information concerning the abandonment of 2.38 miles of the Winamac Southern Railway Company line (Russiaville Line) between Webster Street (MP 181.26 ) and Defenbaugh Street (MP 183.64) (Project # AB-1254X & AB-1255-X; DHPA #21239)

Dear Mr. McFarland:

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 June 16, 2017, and received on June 20, 2017 for the above indicated project in Kokomo, Howard County, Indiana.

Based upon the documentation available to the staff of the Indiana SHPO, we have not identified any historic buildings, structures, districts, or objects listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places within the probable area of potential effects.

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 that all project activities remain within areas disturbed by previous construction. Please be advised that archaeological deposits can exist underneath the railroad.

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.


At this time, it would be appropriate for the STB to analyze the information that has been gathered from the Indiana SHPO, the general public, and any other consulting parties and make the necessary determinations and findings. Please refer to the following comments for guidance:

- 1) If the STB believes that a determination of "no historic properties affected" accurately reflects its assessment, then it shall provide documentation of its finding as set forth in 36 C.F.R. §800.11 to the Indiana SHPO, notify all consulting parties, and make the documentation available for public inspection (36 C.F.R. §§ 800.4[d][1] and 800.2[d][2]).

- 2) If, on the other hand, the STB finds that an historic property may be affected, then it shall notify the Indiana SHPO, the public and all consulting parties of its finding and seek views on effects in accordance with 36 C.F.R. §§ 800.4(d)(2) and 800.2(d)(2). Thereafter, the STB may proceed to apply the criteria of adverse effect and determine whether the project will result in a “no adverse effect” or an “adverse effect” in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 800.5.

If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Cathy Draeger-Williams at (317) 234-3791 or [cdraeger-williams@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:cdraeger-williams@dnr.IN.gov). If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Chad Slider at (317) 234-5366 or [cslider@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:cslider@dnr.IN.gov). Additionally, in all future correspondence regarding the above indicated project, please refer to DHPA #21239.

Very truly yours,



Mitchell K. Zoll  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

MKZ:CDW:CWS:cws

enc: David C. Navecky, Environmental Protection Specialist, Surface Transportation Board