



#E1-20976

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EEO/AA Employer

April 24, 2015

Ms. Jo Ann Burroughs
CSX Transportation Inc.
500 Water Street - J200
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

RE: Docket AB-55 (Sub No. 661X) and STB Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 741X) Abandonment
FR#: 05-1223-RG-3 and 15-503-RG

Dear Ms. Burroughs

We have reviewed the information for the above referenced project to determine its effects to cultural resources. 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.

According to submitted information, CSX Transportation proposes to abandon 15.12 miles of railroad. Previously the abandonment was reviewed in 2005-2007, but "never officially consummated and the abandonment lapsed." CSX Transportation would like to bank the rail line under the Notice of Interim Trail and Rail Banking with the Surface Transportation Board. This will allow the rail line to be salvaged or sold while maintaining the right-of-way for future use to coal reserves.

Thank you for completing the requested Historic Property Inventory (HPI) forms. It is our opinion based on the previous letter of June 22, 2007 and the additional HPI forms that this railroad line is eligible as a linear district for the National Register of Historic Places. The abandonment of this line itself would not be an adverse effect to the resource; however, the proposed dismantling and salvage of the resource would be an adverse effect. Since salvage operations cannot occur without the abandonment it is our opinion that the abandonment of the line would result in an adverse effect to the resource. Please continue to complete the review process as outlined in 36 CFR 800.6. This may result in the completion of an Memorandum of Agreement.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan M. Pierce". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/EEB

CC: Diana Wood, Surface Transportation Board