

207346

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

LAW DEPARTMENT
101 NORTH WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 1920
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606
FAX NO. 312-777-2065

RONALD J. CUCHNA
GENERAL SOLICITOR
312-777-2040



GEORGE H. BRANT
312-777-2051
MACK H. SHUMATE, JR.
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DANIEL R. LA FAVE
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312-777-2053
FREDERICK P. JOHNSTON, JR.
312-777-2047

March 4, 2003



VIA U.P.S. OVERNIGHT

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 "K" St., N.W., Room 504
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Attention: Victoria Rutson

**RE: Proposed Abandonment of a Western Portion of the Bristow
Subdivision from M.P. 318.66 near Hampton to M.P. 326.50
near Coulter, a distance of 7.84 miles in Franklin County,
Iowa; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 201X)**

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket is the original and ten (10) copies of a Combined Environmental and Historic Report prepared pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.7 and §1105.8, with a Certificate of Service, and a transmittal letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.11.

Union Pacific anticipates filing a Petition for Exemption in this matter on or after March 25, 2003.

Sincerely,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney

Enclosures

**ENTERED
Office of Proceedings**

MAR 5 2003

Part of
Public Record

State Clearinghouse (or alternate):

Mr. Steven R. McCann
Division for Community Progress
Iowa Department of Economic
Development
200 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

State Environmental Protection

Agency:

Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Conservation Service
693 Federal Building
210 Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

State Coastal Zone Management Agency
(if applicable):

Not applicable.

Head of each County:

Franklin County Board of Supervisors
County Courthouse
P. O. Box 26
Hampton, IA 50440-0026

Environmental Protection Agency

(regional office):

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VII
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

U.S. Fish and Wildlife:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Region 3
One Federal Drive
Federal Building
Fort Snelling, MN 55111

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Engineer District
Rock Island
P. O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

National Park Service:

William D. Shaddox
Chief, Land Resources Division
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
1849 "C" St., N.W., #MS2540
Washington, D.C. 20240

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation
Service:

USDA Natural Resource Conservation
Service
693 Federal Bldg.
210 Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

National Geodetic Survey:

National Geodetic Survey
Edward J. McKay, Chief
Spatial Reference System Division
NOAA N/NGS2
1315 E-W Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

State Historic Preservation Office:

State Historical Society of Iowa
Attn: Beth Foster, R&C Coordinator
600 East Locust Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0290

Shipper:

Mr. Gaylan Brunssen
General Manager
AgVantage FS, Incorporated
P. O. Box 409
New Hampton, IA 50659-0409

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New Hampton, IA 50659-0409

**Re: Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 201X), Union Pacific Railroad
Company - Abandonment of a Western Portion of the
Bristow Subdivision -- In Franklin County, IA**

Dear Sirs:

On or after March 25, 2003, we expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) a Petition for Exemption seeking authority to abandon a Western portion of the Bristow Subdivision from M. P. 318.66 near Coulter to M. P. 326.50 near Hampton, a distance of 7.84 miles in Franklin County, Iowa (the "Line"). The Line traverses U. S. Postal Service Zip Codes 50431 and 50441. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report which describes the proposed action and any expected environmental and historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

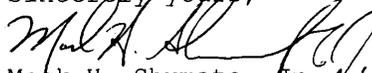
We are providing this report so that you may review the information the STB will use for it's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at the following address, and refer to the above-referenced Docket Numbers:

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA)
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 504
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001
Telephone (202) 565-1545

The applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, so your written comments to SEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within three weeks.

The Board will consider your comments in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. Please direct any questions concerning this proposal to our representative at the addresses and telephone numbers indicated on this letterhead.

Sincerely yours,


Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 201X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, IA
(A WESTERN PORTION OF THE BRISTOW SUBDIVISION)

Combined Environmental and Historic Report

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

Mack H. Shumate, Jr., Senior General Attorney
101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 777-2055
(312) 777-2065 FAX

Dated: March 4, 2003
Filed: March 5, 2003

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 201X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, IA
(A WESTERN PORTION OF THE BRISTOW SUBDIVISION)

Combined Environmental and Historic Report

Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") submits this Combined Environmental and Historic Report pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e) and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d), respectively, for an abandonment of a Western portion of the Bristow Subdivision from M. P. 318.66 near Hampton to M. P. 326.50 near Coulter, a distance of 7.84 miles in Franklin County, Iowa (the "Line").

The Line traverses U. S. Postal Service Zip Codes 50431 and 50441.

UP anticipates that a Petition For Exemption to discontinue service on the Line will be filed at the STB on or after March 25, 2003.

A map of the Line is attached as **Attachment No. 1**. UP's letter to federal, state and local government agencies is marked **Attachment No. 2**. Responses received to the letter to date are attached and sequentially numbered as indicated below.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)

(1) **Proposed action and alternatives.** Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rail line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or

maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable, detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

Response: UP proposes to abandon a Western portion of the Bristow Subdivision from M. P. 318.66 near Hampton to M. P. 326.50 near Coulter, a distance of 7.84 miles in Franklin County, Iowa. Currently, AgVantage FS, Incorporated ("AgVantage") is the only customer on the Line. In 2001, AgVantage shipped or received 753 cars (76,400 tons) of Corn (STCC 0113215); 9 cars (888 tons) of Potash (STCC 2812534); 2 cars (195 tons) of Urea (STCC 2818170); 6 cars (601 tons) of Diammonium Phosphate (STCC 2871235); and 1 car (100 tons) of Superphosphate (STCC 2871250). In 2002, AgVantage shipped 942 cars (94,643 tons) of Corn, 8 cars (797 tons) of Potash, and 6 cars (599 tons) of Diammonium Phosphate. AgVantage is aware of the proposed abandonment, and it will not have an adverse effect on AgVantage. AgVantage has already terminated its rail use on the Line by trucking grain to its recently enlarged facility on UP at Chapin, Iowa. Rail service will continue to be provided by UP at Hampton, Iowa. Coulter lies on a state road approximately one mile east of Interstate 35, a major north-south route.

UP is not aware of any other industry planning a location along the Line and there is no overhead traffic. There are no reasonable alternatives to abandonment of the Line. Traffic levels on the Line do not justify its continued operation and maintenance. Recent train service was provided on an as needed basis.

The Line was constructed by the Mason City and Fort Dodge Railroad in 1902. The Line is laid with 85-pound rail. The Line contains reversionary interest property but no federally granted right of way. Upon abandonment the rail might be retained for subsequent use or sold to a salvage company.

A map of the Line is attached as **Attachment No. 1**.

(2) **Transportation system.** Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns. Estimate the amount of traffic (passenger or freight) that will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed action.

Response: The Line's only source of rail activity in the past two years has been AgVantage FS, Incorporated at New Hampton, Iowa. The abandonment will not have an adverse effect on AgVantage, who is aware of the abandonment. No traffic diversion to other modes will occur because of this action.

(3) **Land use.** (i) Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

(iii) If the action effects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by § 1105.9.

(iv) If the proposed action is an abandonment, state whether or not the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 and explain why.

Response: (i) Applicant is unaware of any adverse effects on local and existing land use plans. The Franklin County Commissioners Office has been contacted. To date no response has been received.

(ii) The United States Natural Resources Conservation Service has been contacted, and they state the proposed track abandonment will not affect any prime agricultural lands unless water conveyance systems are adversely affected. The NRCS response is marked **Attachment No. 3** and is attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof.

(iii) The Line is not in a state coastal zone.

(iv) UP believes the property proposed for abandonment is not suitable for other public purposes, including roads or highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, because the area, with its limited population base, is adequately service by existing roads and utility lines. The property would be well suited for trail purposes.

(4) **Energy.** (i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

(ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities.

(iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.

(iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:

(A) 1,000 rail carloads a year, or

(B) an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given.

Response: (i) There will be no effect on the transportation of energy resources.

(ii) There will be no effect on recyclable commodities.

(iii) There is little if any change in rail activity resulting from the proposed action, so there should be no discernible effect on energy efficiency.

(iv)(A)(B) There will be no rail-to-motor diversion of these magnitudes.

(5) **Air.** (i) If the proposed action will result in either:

(A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 100% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least eight trains a day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposal, or

(B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100% (measured by carload activity), or

(C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment, quantify the anticipated effect on air emissions. For a proposal under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or § 10505) to construct a new line or reinstitute service over a previously abandoned line, only the eight train a day provision in §§ (5)(i)(A) will apply.

Response: There is no such effect anticipated.

(5) **Air.** (ii) If the proposed action affects a class 1 or nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act, and will result in either:

(A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 50% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least three trains a day on any segment of rail line, or

(B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 20% (measured by carload activity), or

(C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on a given road segment, then state whether any expected increased emissions are within the parameters established by the State Implementation Plan. However, for a rail construction under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or 49 U.S.C. § 10505), or a case involving the reinstatement of service over a previously abandoned line, only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply.

Response: There will be no increase in rail traffic, rail yard activity, or truck traffic of such magnitude resulting from the proposed action.

(5) **Air.** (iii) If transportation of ozone depleting materials (such as nitrogen oxide and freon) is contemplated, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and spills; contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of ozone depleting materials in the event of a collision or derailment.

Response: The proposed abandonment will not affect the transportation of ozone depleting materials.

(6) **Noise.** If any of the thresholds identified in item (5)(i) of this section are surpassed, state whether the proposed action will cause:

(i) an incremental increase in noise levels of three decibels Ldn or more or

(ii) an increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area and quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed.

Response: Not applicable.

(7) **Safety.** (i) Describe any effects of the proposed action on public health and safety (including vehicle delay time at railroad grade crossings).

(ii) If hazardous materials are expected to be transported, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; whether chemicals are being transported that, if mixed, could react to form more hazardous compounds; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and hazardous spills; the contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials.

(iii) If there are any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved.

Response: (i) The proposed action will have no detrimental effects on public health and safety.

(ii) The proposed action will not affect the transportation of hazardous materials.

(iii) UP is unaware of any hazardous material waste sites or sites where known hazardous material spills have occurred on or along the subject right-of-way.

(8) **Biological resources.** (i) Based on consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects.

(ii) State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

Response: (i) The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been contacted. To date UP has received no response.

(ii) UP is not aware of any wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, or of any National or State parks or forests, that will be affected by the proposed abandonment.

(9) **Water.** (i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

(iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicant should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)

Response: (i) The Iowa Department of Natural has been contacted. To date UP has received no response.

(ii) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been contacted and determined that the proposed abandonment does not require a Department of the Army Section 404 permit. The Corps of Engineers response is marked **Attachment No. 4** and is attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof.

(iii) It is not anticipated there will be any requirements for Section 402 permits.

(10) **Proposed Mitigation.** Describe any actions that are proposed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, indicating why the proposed mitigation is appropriate.

Response: There are no known adverse environmental impacts.

HISTORIC REPORT
49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d)

(1) A U.S.G.S. topographic map (or an alternate map drawn to scale and sufficiently detailed to show buildings and other structures in the vicinity of the proposed action) showing the location of the proposed action, and the locations and approximate dimensions of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older and are part of the proposed action:

Response: See **Attachment No. 1.**

(2) A written description of the right-of-way (including approximate widths to the extent known), and the topography and urban and/or rural characteristics of the surrounding area:

Response: The Line is generally 100 feet in width and is adjacent to fair to good agricultural land. The topography varies from flat to gently sloping.

(3) Good quality photographs (actual photographic prints, not photocopies) of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area:

Response: The State Historical Society of Iowa was provided with original photographs of three (3) bridges 50 years old or older. A copy of the letter to the Historical Society and pictures are attached hereto as **Attachment No. 5**, and hereby made a part hereof. UP is currently awaiting the Historical Society's response.

(4) The date(s) of construction of the structure(s), and the date(s) and extent of any major alterations to the extent such information is known:

Response: The bridges and their dates of construction are listed on the map, **Attachment No. 1**, and in the letter, **Attachment No. 5**.

(5) A brief narrative history of carrier operations in the area, and an explanation of what, if any, changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action:

Response: See the preceding pages for a brief history and description of carrier operations.

(6) A brief summary of documents in the carrier's possession, such as engineering drawings, that might be useful in documenting a structure that is found to be historic:

Response: UP believes bridge drawings are available.

(7) An opinion (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) as to whether the site and/or structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (36 C.F.R. § 60.4), and whether there is a likelihood of archeological resources or any other previously unknown historic properties in the project area, and the basis for these opinions (including any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office, local historical societies or universities):

Response: At this time, UP knows of no historic sites or structures or archeological resources on the Line or in the project area. UP has reviewed the bridge photographs and believe that the bridges on the Line over fifty years old are not historically significant. The bridges typically found on the Line are of a common standard railroad construction and of little historical significance. UP also believes that any archeological sites within the scope of the right-of-way would have previously been disturbed during the construction of the Line.

(8) A description (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) of any known prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, environmental conditions (naturally occurring or manmade) that might affect the archeological recovery of resources (such as swampy conditions or the presence of toxic wastes), and the surrounding terrain:

Response: UP does not have any such readily available information.

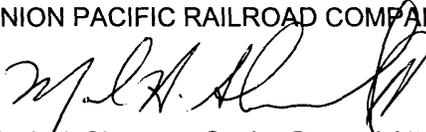
(9) Within 30 days of receipt of the historic report, the State Historic Preservation Officer may request the following additional information regarding specified nonrailroad owned properties or group of properties immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way. Photographs of specified properties that can be readily seen from the railroad right-of-way (or other public rights-of-way adjacent to the property) and a written description of any previously discovered archeological sites, identifying the locations and type of the site (i.e., prehistoric or native American):

Response: Not applicable.

Dated this 4th day of March, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mack H. Shumate', written over the company name.

Mack H. Shumate, Senior General Attorney
101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 777-2055
(312) 777-2065 FAX

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
OF THE
COMBINED ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC REPORT

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing Combined Environmental and Historic Report in Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 201X) for a Western portion of the Bristow Subdivision in Franklin County, Iowa was served by first class mail on the 4th day of March, 2003 on the following:

State Clearinghouse (or alternate):

Mr. Steven R. McCann
Division for Community Progress
Iowa Department of Economic Development
200 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Engineer District
Rock Island
P. O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

State Environmental Protection Agency:

Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Conservation Service
693 Federal Building
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Des Moines, IA 50309

National Park Service:

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Chief, Land Resources Division
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Department of the Interior
1849 "C" St., N.W., #MS2540
Washington, D.C. 20240

**State Coastal Zone Management Agency
(if applicable):**

Not applicable.

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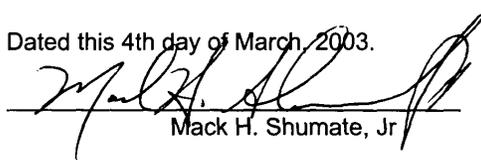
U.S. Fish and Wildlife:

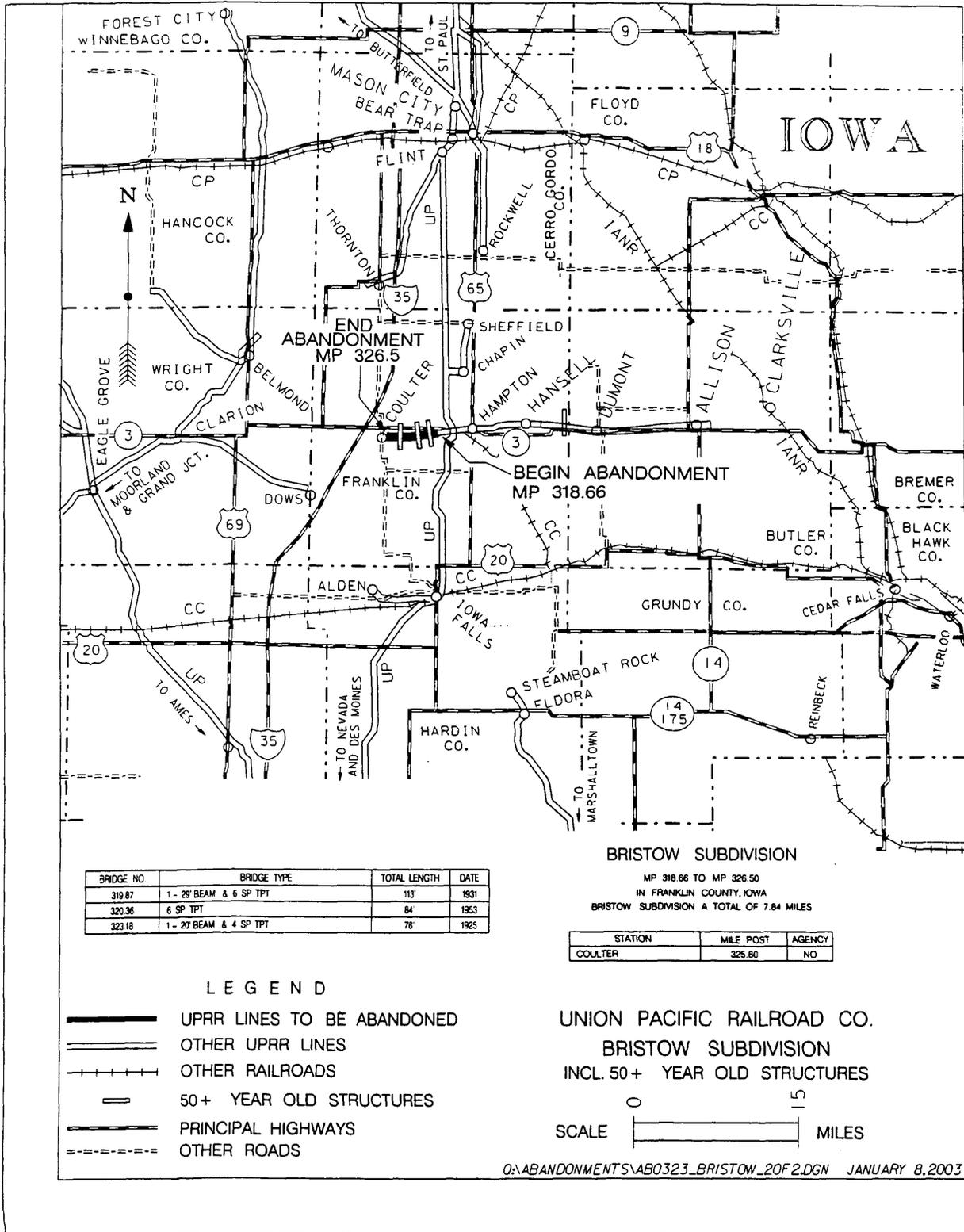
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 3
One Federal Drive
Federal Building
Fort Snelling, MN 55111

Shipper:

Mr. Gaylan Brunssen
General Manager
AgVantage FS, Incorporated
P. O. Box 409
New Hampton, IA 50659-0409

Dated this 4th day of March, 2003.


Mack H. Shumate, Jr.



BRIDGE NO	BRIDGE TYPE	TOTAL LENGTH	DATE
319.87	1 - 29' BEAM & 6 SP TPT	113'	1931
320.36	6 SP TPT	84'	1953
323.18	1 - 20' BEAM & 4 SP TPT	76'	1925

BRISTOW SUBDIVISION

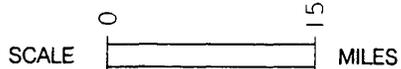
MP 318.66 TO MP 326.50
 IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA
 BRISTOW SUBDIVISION A TOTAL OF 7.84 MILES

STATION	MILE POST	AGENCY
COULTER	325.80	NO

LEGEND

- UPRR LINES TO BE ABANDONED
- OTHER UPRR LINES
- OTHER RAILROADS
- 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES
- PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS
- OTHER ROADS

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CO.
 BRISTOW SUBDIVISION
 INCL. 50+ YEAR OLD STRUCTURES



CHARLES W. SAYLORS
DIRECTOR LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY



1416 DODGE STREET
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68179
(402) 271-4861
(402) 271-5625 (FAX)

January 13, 2003

State Clearinghouse (or alternate):

Mr. Steven R. McCann
Division for Community Progress
Iowa Department of Economic Development
200 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

State Environmental Protection Agency:

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 3
One Federal Drive
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Fort Snelling, MN 55111

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Engineer District
Rock Island
P. O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

National Park Service:

William D. Shaddox
Chief, Land Resources Division
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, NE., Room 500
Washington, D.C. 20002

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service:

Natural Resource Conservation Service
693 Federal Bldg.
210 Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

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1315 E-W Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

State Historic Preservation Office:

State Historical Society of Iowa
Attn: Beth Foster, R&C Coordinator
600 East Locust Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0290

Shipper:

Mr. Gaylan Brunssen
General Manager
AgVantage FS, Incorporated
P. O. Box 409
New Hampton, IA 50659-0409

Re: Proposed Abandonment of the Bristow Subdivision from M. P. 318.66 near Coulter to M. P. 326.50 near Hampton, a distance of 7.84 miles in Franklin County, Iowa; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 201X)

Dear Sirs:

Union Pacific Railroad Company plans to request authority from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to abandon the Bristow Subdivision from M. P. 318.66 near

Coulter to M. P. 326.50 near Hampton, a distance of 7.84 miles in Franklin County, Iowa. A map of the proposed track abandonment shown in black is attached.

Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, and the environmental regulations at 40 C.F. R. Part 1105.7, this is to request your assistance in identifying any potential effects of this action as indicated in the paragraphs below. We do not anticipate any adverse environmental impacts; however, if you identify any adverse environmental impacts, describe any actions that are proposed in order to mitigate the environmental impacts. Please provide us with a written response that can be included in an Environmental Report, which will be sent to the STB.

LOCAL AND/OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES. State whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE. State the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (And State Game And Parks Commission, If Addressed). State (1) whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects, and, (2) whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

STATE WATER QUALITY OFFICIALS. State whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or Local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. State (1) whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and (2) whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

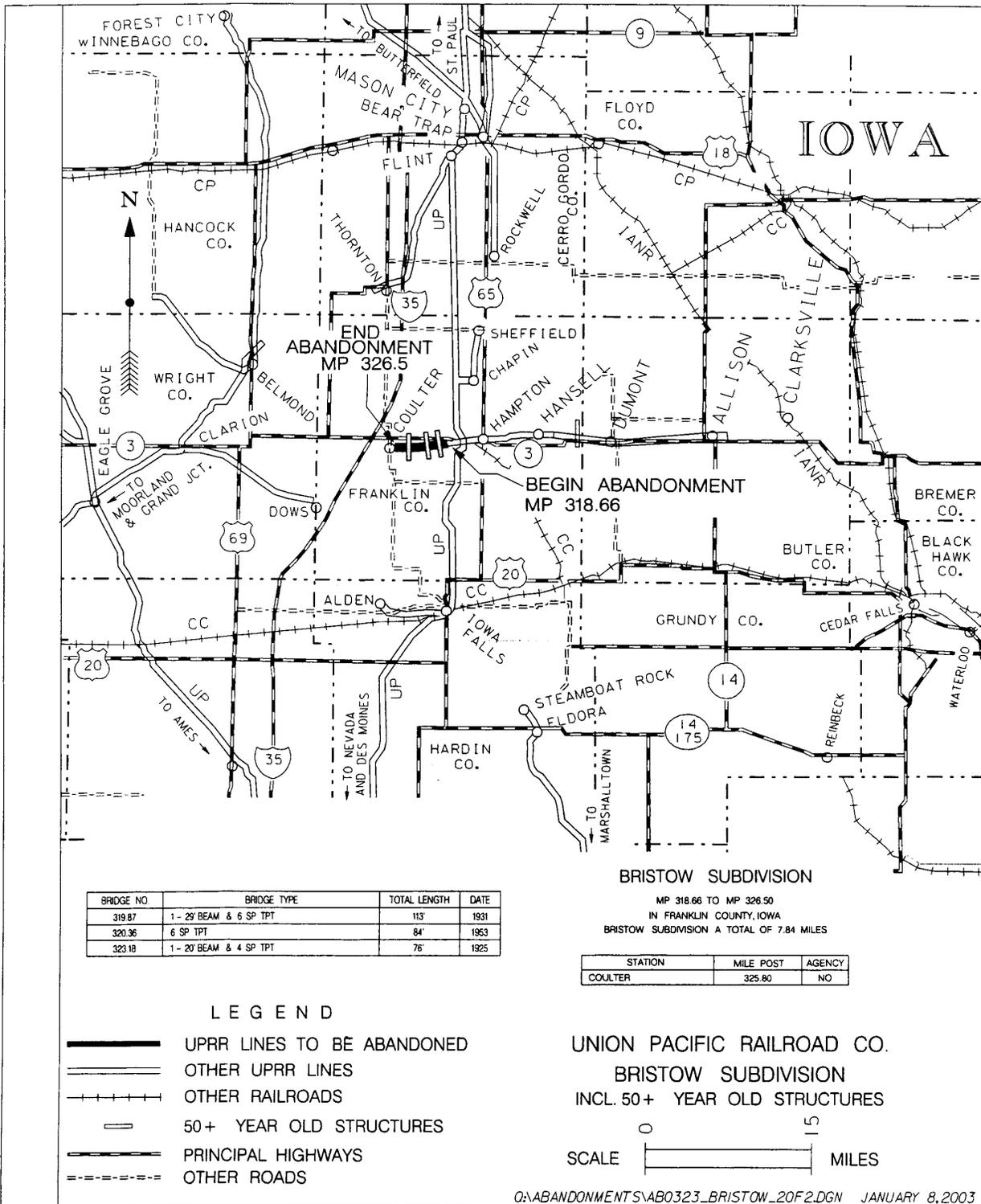
U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (OR EQUIVALENT AGENCY). (1) Identify any potential effects on the surrounding area, (2) identify the location of hazardous waste sites and known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way and list the types of hazardous materials involved, and (3) state whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action.

Thank you for your assistance. Please send your reply to Union Pacific Railroad, Mr. Chuck Saylor, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, NE, 68179. If you need further information, please contact me at (402) 271-4861.

Yours truly,


Charles W. Saylor

Attachment



United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Walnut Street
693 Federal Building
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

January 21, 2003

Ref: STB Docket No. AB-33
(Sub-No. 201X)
Franklin County, IA

Mr. Charles W. Saylor
Director
Legal Support Services
Union Pacific Railroad Company
1416 Dodge Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68179

Dear Mr. Saylor:

Please change your form letter from U.S. Soil Conservation Service to read USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The proposed track abandonment will not affect any prime agricultural lands unless water conveyance systems are adversely affected. Research should be undertaken to identify those systems and to address proper activities in and around them.

Specific site information can be obtained from Margaret Mueller, District Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 115 Second Avenue NW, Hampton, Iowa 50441-1723, (641) 456-2157.

Sincerely,


Leroy Brown
State Conservationist



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - P.O. BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil>

January 15, 2003

Operations Division

SUBJECT: CEMVR-OD-P-439320

Mr. Charles Saylor
Union Pacific Railroad Company
1416 Dodge Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68179

Dear Mr. Saylor:

Our office reviewed your letter dated January 13, 2003, concerning the proposed abandonment of the Bristow Subdivision from Mile Post 318.66 to Mile Post 326.50 in Franklin County, Iowa.

We determined your project as proposed does not require a Department of the Army (DA) Section 404 permit. The decision regarding this action is based on information found in the administrative record which documents the District's decision-making process, the basis for the decision, and the final decision. No indication of discharge of dredged or fill material was found to occur in waters of the United States (including wetlands). Therefore, this determination resulted.

Should your project involve the extraction of any bridges, you are required to remove all fill material to an upland, non-wetland site, and to remove all pilings to at least one foot below streambed elevations. You are also required to seed all disturbed areas with native grasses and to implement appropriate measures to insure that sediments are not introduced into waters of the United States during your project.

You are advised that this determination for your project is valid for five years from the date of this letter. If the project is not completed within this five-year period or your project plans change, you should contact our office for another determination.

Although a DA Section 404 permits is not required for the project as proposed, you must still acquire other applicable Federal, state, and local permits.

Should you have any questions, please contact our Regulatory Branch by letter, or telephone me at 309/794-5367.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael D. Hayes".

Michael D. Hayes
Project Manager
Enforcement Section

Copy Furnished: (w/o enclosures)

Mr. Kelly Stone (2)
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Flood Plain Section
Henry A. Wallace Building
900 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034

CHARLES W. SAYLORS
DIRECTOR-LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

1416 DODGE STREET
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68179
(402) 271-4861



January 13, 2003

State Historical Society of Iowa
Attn: Beth Foster, R&C Coordinator
600 East Locust Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0290

RE: Proposed Abandonment of the Bristow Subdivision from M. P. 318.66 near Hampton to M. P. 326.50 near Coulter, a distance of 7.84 miles in Franklin County, Iowa; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 201X)

Dear Ms. Foster:

Enclosed for your review are photographs of the three bridges located on the Bristow Subdivision from M. P. 318.66 to M. P. 326.50 which are 50 years or older. The bridges are described as follows:

<u>Milepost</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Year Constructed</u>
319.87	1 - 29' Beam & 6 SP TPT Total Length: 113 feet	1931
320.36	6 SP TPT Total Length: 84 feet	1953
323.18	1 - 20' Beam & 4 SP TPT Total Length: 76 feet	1925

Please advise if you believe there is historical significance to any of the bridges. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Saylor
Charles W. Saylor
(402) 271-4861



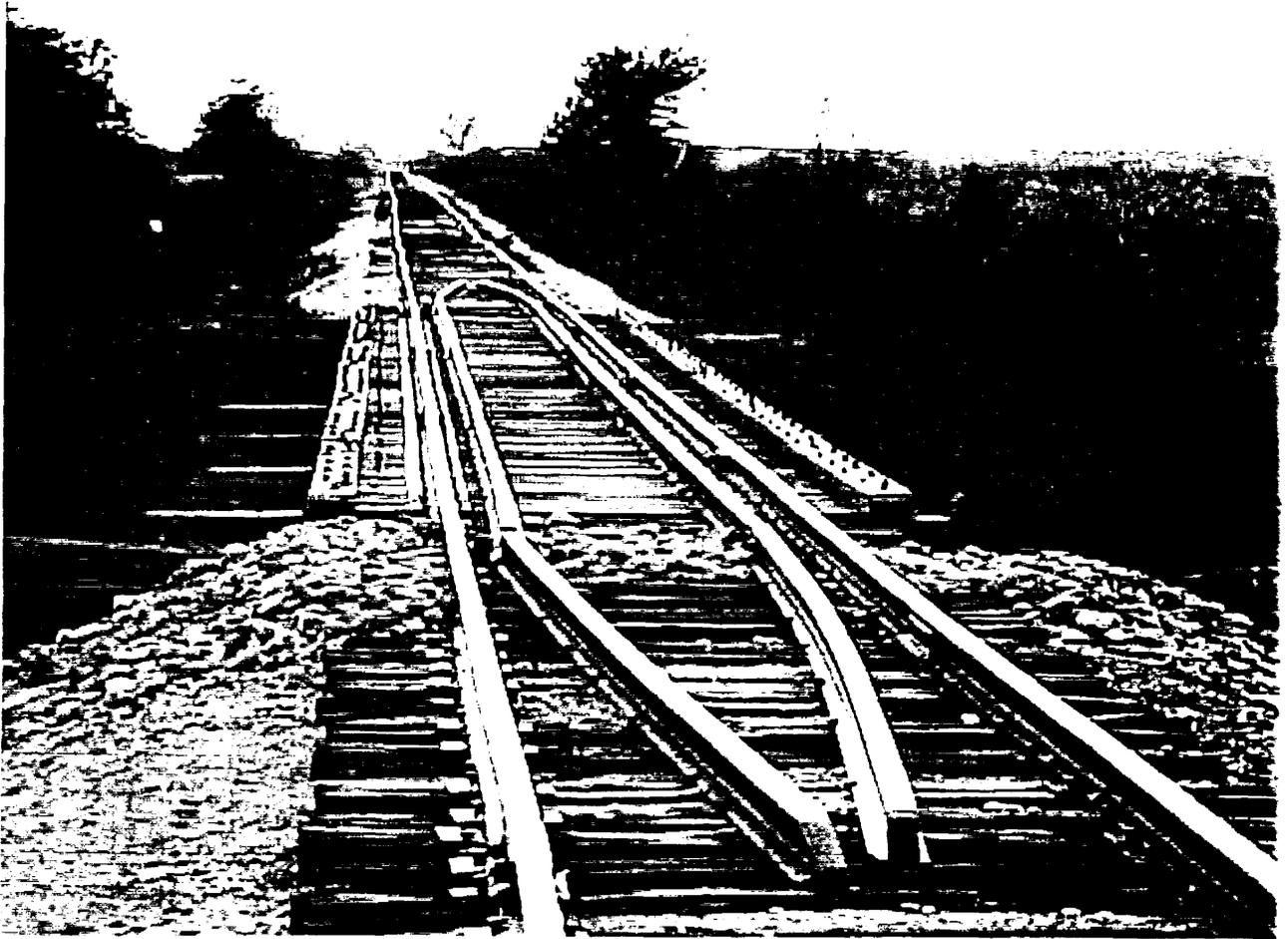
Milepost 319.87



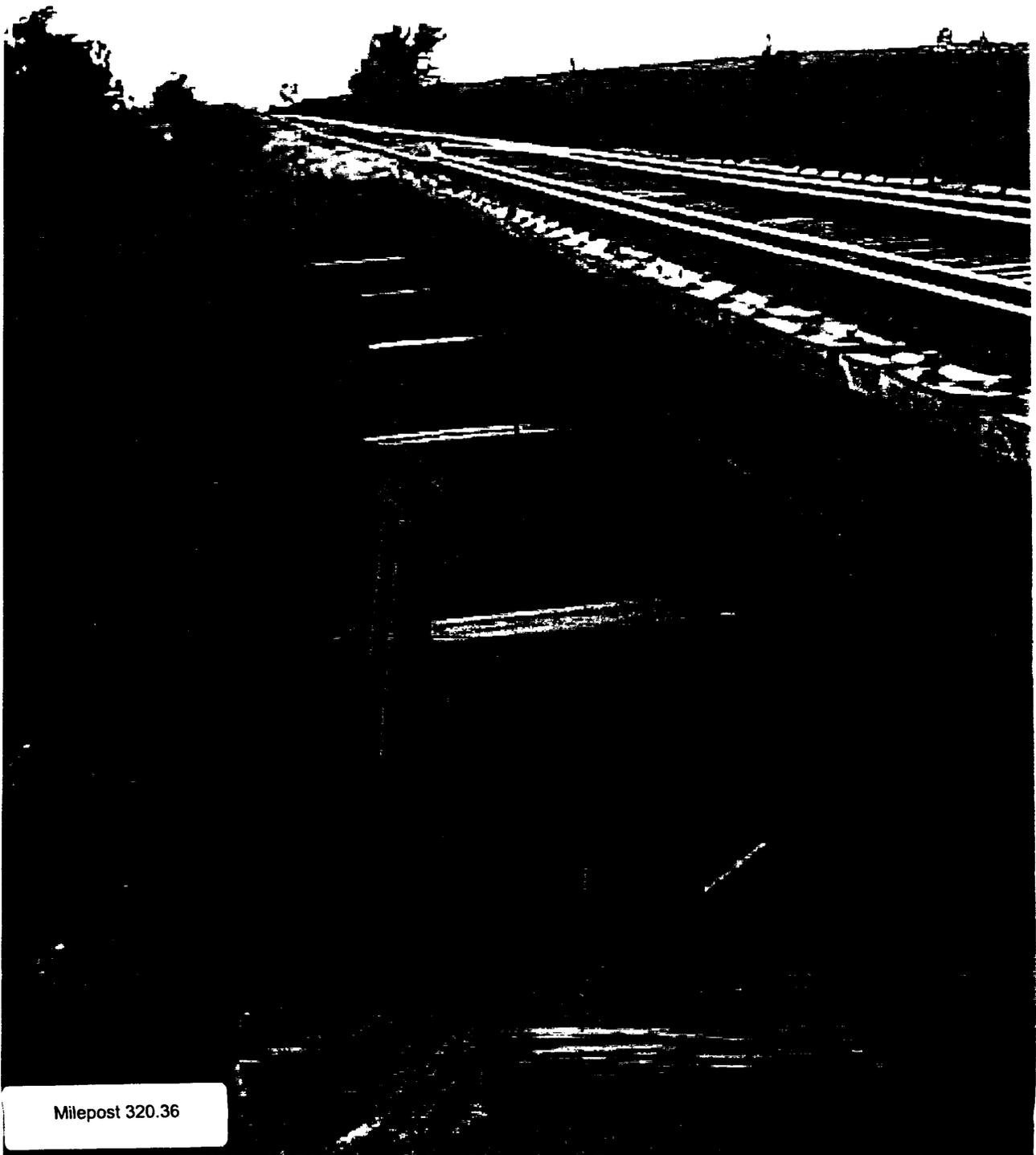
Milepost 319.87



Milepost 319.87



Milepost 320.36



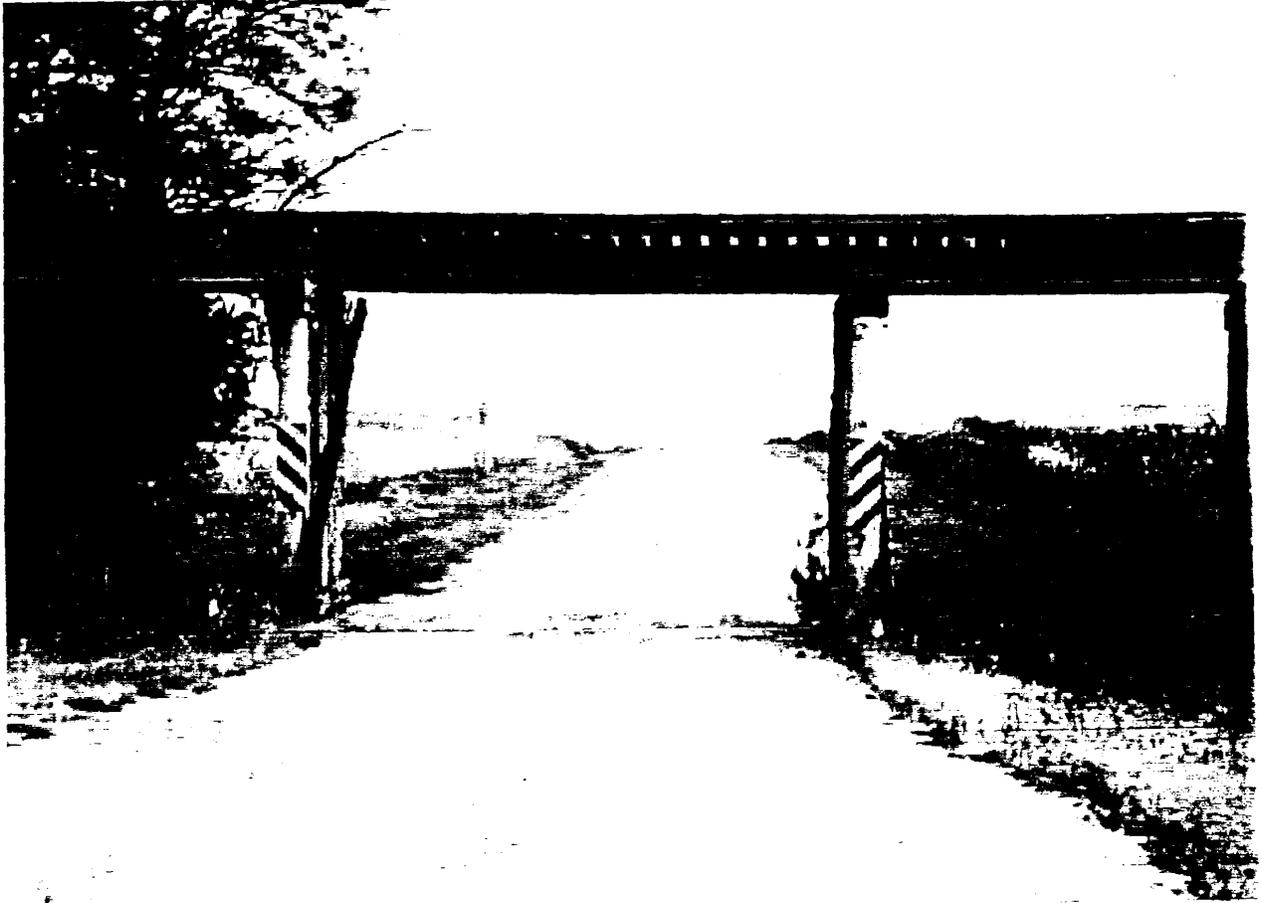
Milepost 320.36



Milepost 323.18



Milepost 323.18



Milepost 323.18