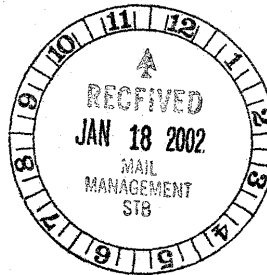




Norfolk Southern Corporation
Law Department
Three Commercial Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241

Writer's Direct Dial Number

(757) 629-2759
fax (757) 533-4872



James R. Paschall
General Attorney

October 19, 2001

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary

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Public Record

204456
Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 199X), Norfolk Southern
Railway Company -- Abandonment Exemption -- Between Asheville, NC and
New Bridge, NC - in Buncombe County, NC

Dear Mr. Williams:

I enclose a letter from Mr. David Brook, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, with comments concerning the historical importance of the subject line and surrounding area. Mr. Brook identifies no historic significance of the line itself and states that there are unlikely to be any archaeological resources which may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. We believe this should conclude the Section 106 (NHPA) process in this matter. We request that the historic preservation process condition be removed from the abandonment exemption authority in this matter. We understand that NSR will have 60 days from the date of the Board's order to exercise the abandonment authority.

Mr. Brook's letter, signed by Ms. Gledhill-Early, was written some time ago, but was inadvertently not forwarded to our department for handling until a status inquiry was made last month. We regret any inconvenience to the Board, but we believe that no one has been prejudiced by the delay in handling.

Very truly yours,

James R. Paschall

cc: Mr. J. T. Moon, II

Operating Subsidiary: Norfolk Southern Railway Company

SEP 11 2001 01:07 FR
09/13/2001 14:55

TO 75334872
NC STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION → 84045272655

P.01/01

NO.432 001



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

David L. S. Brook, Administrator

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
Betty Ray McCain, Secretary

Division of Archives and History
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

November 21, 2000

Bernard Brown
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW Suite 500
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Abandonment of rail line, Norfolk Southern Railway, Buncombe County, ER 01-7766

Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your letter of October 6, 2000, concerning the above project.

We have conducted a search of our maps and files and have located the following structures of historical or architectural importance within the general area of the project.

- NC Electric Company Generating Plant (BN 373), located at 204 Riverside Drive. This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Elk Mountain Cotton Mill & Mill Village (BN 374), located on the south side of the junction of Riverside Drive and SR 1684.

There are no known archaeological sites within the proposed project area. Based on our present knowledge of the area, it is unlikely that any archaeological resources, which may be eligible for inclusion in National Register of Historic Places, will be affected by project construction. We recommend that no archaeological investigation be conducted in connection with this project.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, Environmental Review Coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

Sincerely,

Renee Gledhill-Earley
David Brook
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	# of pages
To	SANORA GORBY	From	Rick Dietz
Co./Dept.		Co.	
Phone #		Phone #	529-1434
Fax #	533-4872	Fax #	

	Location	Mailing Address	Telephone/Fax
ADMINISTRATION	507 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919) 733-4763 • 733-8653
ARCHAEOLOGY	421 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4619 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4619	(919) 733-7342 • 715-2677
RESTORATION	515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4613 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4613	(919) 733-6347 • 715-4801
SURVEY & PLANNING	515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4618 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4618	(919) 733-6345 • 715-4801

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919 733 8653

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** TOTAL PAGE.01 **

