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October 28, 2021

VIA E-FILING

Re: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. – Abandonment Exemption –
in Hartford County, CT
Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB 979 (Sub-No. 3X)

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed for filing in the above referenced docket is a statement from the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office ("CT SHPO") to be included as a supplement to Appendix G of the Environmental and Historic Report. The CT SHPO states that based on the information submitted to it by Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. for the abandonment of the line of railroad in Hartford County, CT, "no historic properties will be affected by the proposed activities."

If you have any questions related to this filing, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Justin J. Marks
Counsel to Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

Enclosure

**ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORIC
REPORT**

SUPPLEMENT TO

EXHIBIT G

SHPO CORRESPONDENCE



PROJECT REVIEW COVER FORM

This is: ☐ a new submittal ☒ supplemental information ☐ other Date Submitted: Oct. 1, 2021

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: CSO Manchester Lead Abandonment

Project Proponent: Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc.

The individual or group sponsoring, organizing, or proposing the project.

Project Street Address: Project is the abandonment of a railroad line between milepost 8.33 (Station 5730+04) and milepost 9.40 (Station 5673+42).
Include street number, street name, and or Route Number. If no street address exists give closest intersection.

City or Town: Town of Manchester County: Hartford
Please use the municipality name and **not** the village or hamlet.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (REQUIRED)

Please summarize the project below. In a separate attachment, describe the project in detail. As applicable, provide any information regarding past land use, project area size, renovation plans, demolitions, and/or new construction.

See attached letter and Environmental/Historical Report

List all state and federal agencies involved in the project and indicate the funding, permit, license or approval program pertaining to the proposed project:

Agency Type	Agency Name	Program Name
☐ State ☒ Federal	Surface Transportation Board	STB Docket No. AB 979 (Sub-No. 3X)
☐ State ☐ Federal		
☐ State ☐ Federal		
☐ State ☐ Federal		

If there is no state or federal agency involvement, please state the reason for your review request:

FOR SHPO USE ONLY

Based on the information submitted to our office for the above named property and project, it is the opinion of the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office that no historic properties will be affected by the proposed activities.*


Jonathan Kinney
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

10/28/21

Date

*All other determinations of effect will result in a formal letter from this office



PROJECT REVIEW COVER FORM

CULTURAL RESOURCES IDENTIFICATION

Background research for previously identified historic properties within a project area may be undertaken at the SHPO's office. To schedule an appointment, please contact Catherine Labadia, 860-500-2329 or Catherine.labadia@ct.gov. Some applicants may find it advantageous to hire a qualified historic preservation professional to complete the identification and evaluation of historic properties.

Are there any historic properties listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places within the project area? (Select one)

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Do Not Know

If yes, please identify: _____

Architecture

Are there any buildings, structures, or objects within the Area of Potential Effects (houses, bridges, barns, walls, etc.)? The area of potential effects means the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties. If you're not sure, check "I don't know."

☐ Yes (attach clearly labeled photographs of each resource and applicable property cards from the municipality assessor)

☐ No (proceed to next section)

☒ I don't know (proceed to next section)

Date the existing building/structures/objects were constructed: Do not know

If the project involves rehabilitation, demolition, or alterations to existing buildings older than 50 years, provide a work plan (If window replacements are proposed, provide representative photographs of existing windows).

Archeology

Does the proposed project involve ground disturbing activities?

☒ Yes (provide below or attach a description of current and prior land use and disturbances. Attach an excerpt of the soil survey map for the project area. These can be created for free at: <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>

Removing rail, ties, and other track materials.

☐ No

CHECKLIST (Did you attach the following information?)

Required for all Projects	Required for Projects with architectural resources
☒ Completed Form	☐ Work plans for rehabilitation or renovation
☒ Map clearly labelled depicting project area	☐ Assessor's Property Card
☒ Photographs of current site conditions	Required for Projects with ground disturbing activities
☐ Site or project plans for new construction	☐ Soil survey map
Suggested Attachments, as needed	
☒ Supporting documents needed to explain project	☐ Supporting documents identifying historic properties
☐ Historic maps or aerials (available at http://magic.lib.uconn.edu or https://www.historicaerials.com/)	

PROJECT CONTACT

Name: Justin Marks

Firm/Agency: Clark Hill PLC

Address: 1001 Pennsylvania Ave Suite 1300

City: Washington

State: DC

Zip: 20004

Phone: 202 772 0916

Email: jmarks@clarkhill.com

Federal and state laws exist to ensure that agencies, or their designated applicants, consider the impacts of their projects on historic resources. At a minimum, submission of this completed form with its attachments constitutes a request for review by the Connecticut SHPO. The responsibility for preparing documentation, including the identification of historic properties and the assessment of potential effects resulting from the project, rests with the federal or state agency, or its designated applicant. The role of SHPO is to review, comment, and consult. SHPO's ability to complete a timely project review largely depends on the quality of the materials submitted. Please mail the completed form with all attachments to the attention of: Environmental Review, State Historic Preservation Office, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 5, Hartford, CT. **Electronic submissions are not accepted at this time.**