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ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
March 27, 2024  
Part of  
Public Record

March 12, 2024

**VIA US Mail**

**TO: See Attached Service List**

**Re: Proposed Abandonment of the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, St. Louis County, MO, STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X), Union Pacific Railroad Company**

**Proposed Discontinuance of Service on the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, St. Louis County, MO, STB Docket No. AB 1338X, Missouri Eastern Railroad, LLC**

To Whom It May Concern:

On or after April 1, 2024, Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") and Missouri Eastern Railroad, LLC expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB" or "Board") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon and discontinue service over a line segment known generally as the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, Missouri, extending from Milepost 11.58 to Milepost 11.03, a total distance of approximately 0.55 miles in St. Louis County, Missouri ("the Line"). Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

Union Pacific is providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB'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 Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC, telephone (202) 245-0291 and refer to the above Docket Nos. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to OEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within three weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact our representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Christine A. Neuharth who may be contacted by telephone at 402-544-4764 or by mail at 1400 Douglas Street, MS 1580, Omaha, NE 68179.

Sincerely,

s/ Christine A. Neuharth

Christine A. Neuharth, Sr. General Attorney  
Union Pacific Railroad Company  
1400 Douglas Street, MS 1580  
Omaha, Nebraska 68179  
(402) 544-4764  
[caneuhar@up.com](mailto:caneuhar@up.com)

Attachment

**STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X) and Docket No. AB 1338X**

**Service List**

**State Clearinghouse (or Alternate):**

Missouri Federal Assistance Clearinghouse  
Office of Administration  
Missouri State Capitol Building, Room 125  
201 West Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 809  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:**

Headquarters  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Department of the Army  
St. Louis District, Corps of Engineers  
1222 Spruce Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

**State Environmental Protection Agency:**

Division of Environmental Quality  
1101 Riverside Drive  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

**National Park Service:**

National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

**Environmental Protection Agency (Regional Office):**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7  
11201 Renner Boulevard  
Lenexa, KS 66219

**U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service:**

Terry Cosby, Chief  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
1400 Independence Ave.  
Washington, DC 20250

**State of Missouri Historic Preservation Office:**

Tammy Boesch  
Missouri SHPO Review, Compliance, and Records  
Missouri Dept of Natural Resources  
1659 E Elm St, P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**National Geodetic Survey:**

NGS Information Services, NOAA, N/NGS12  
Geodetic Services Division SSMC-3 #9340  
1315 E-W Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282  
[RRAE@noaa.gov](mailto:RRAE@noaa.gov)

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:**

Martha Williams, Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

**Head of St. Louis County, Missouri:**

Dr. Sam Page, County Executive, St. Louis County  
41 South Central  
Clayton, MO 63105

Stephanie Leon Streeter, PE  
Director, Dept of Transportation & Public Works  
1050 North Lindbergh  
St. Louis, MO 63132

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District  
2350 Market Street  
St. Louis, MO 63103

**BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

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**Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X)  
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY  
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --  
IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MO**

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**Combined Environmental and Historic Report**

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY  
Christine A. Neuharth  
Senior General Attorney  
1400 Douglas Street, MS 1580  
Omaha, NE 68179  
402-544-4764  
[caneuhar@up.com](mailto:caneuhar@up.com)

Dated: March 12, 2024

**BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

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**Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X)  
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY  
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --  
IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MO**

---

**Combined Environmental and Historic Report**

Union Pacific Railroad Company (“UP”) submits this Combined Environmental and Historic Report (“CEHR”) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e) and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d), respectively, for an exempt abandonment of that portion of the Rock Island Old Passenger Main extending from Milepost 11.58 to Milepost 11.03, a total distance of 0.55 miles near Olivette, in St. Louis County, Missouri (the “Line”). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 63132. Incidental to the abandonment, Missouri Eastern Railroad, LLC (MER”), which leases the Line from UP, will seek authorization to discontinue service over the Line simultaneously with UP’s abandonment filing. UP and MER anticipate that they will file a Joint Notice of Exemption to abandon and to discontinue service over the Line on or after April 1, 2024. UP’s proposed abandonment of the Line is the subject of the present CEHR.

A map of the Line (**Attachment No. 1**), and UP’s letter to federal, state and local government agencies (**Attachment No. 2**), are attached to this CEHR. There is one bridge structure on the Line. Responses received thus far to UP’s letters are also attached.



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:** As relevant here, the proposed action involves an exempt abandonment of that portion of Rock Island Old Passenger Main extending from Milepost 11.58 to Milepost 11.03 a total distance of 0.55 miles near Olivette, in St. Louis County, Missouri (the “Line”), including one railroad bridge. A map of the Line is attached as **Attachment No. 1.**

The stub-ended Line begins at Milepost 11.58, north of the bridge, to Milepost 11.03, south of the intersection of Alice Place and N. Price Road. The subject track is contained within ZIP code 63132. The track is laid with 90-pound rail.

This Line was originally constructed circa 1887 as the Rock Island’s main line to St. Louis. The Line was supplanted by the construction of the freight line to the TRRA circa 1908. The Line was severed in 1937 and further shortened in 1950. Then it was purchased by UP predecessor and SP subsidiary Cotton Belt (SSW) in 1980. The Line had been operated under lease by the Central Midland Railway Company from 2003, then the MER from 2022. MER uses the track connecting to the Line for storage of railcars from ~900’ from the switch off the mainline to the bridge that crosses the River Des Peres. The Line once served the Dielman Industrial Park located south of the bridge. The industrial park has not been served in over 20 years and the bridge has been tested and is not structurally sound to handle loaded railcars.

UP's real property interest in the Line is primarily fee in nature. Based upon information in UP's possession, the Line does not contain federally granted right-of-way.

UP has entered into a purchase and sale agreement with Metropolitan Park and Recreation District d/b/a The Great Rivers Greenway District, a corporate and political subdivision of the State of Missouri (the "Buyer").

After the proposed abandonment, the Line will be developed for hike/bike trail purposes. All track, ties, public road crossings, railroad signals will be salvaged and removed by a contractor engaged by the Buyer after consummation of the proposed abandonment and completion of the sale. The Buyer also intends to remove the bridge superstructure, while the bridge abutment walls will generally remain in place. Buyer's contract for salvage and removal would include detailed information on any environmental or historical conditions imposed by the Board, if applicable. Ballast will typically be left in place but may be removed by the Buyer after the sale if it is of exceptional quality - thus suitable for resale.

**(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:** Given that no traffic (including any overhead traffic) traverses the Line, the proposed abandonment will have no impact on area transportation systems and patterns. No traffic will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed abandonment.

**(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 affects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by 49 C.F.R. § 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) UP is unaware of any adverse effects on local and existing land use plans. The Head of St. Louis County has been contacted. To date, UP has not received a response.

(ii) The Natural Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS") has been contacted. To date, UP has not received a response.

(iii) Not Applicable.

(iv) The property proposed for abandonment is suitable for a public purpose for recreational use as a hike/bike trail, but not for roads or highways, other forms of mass transportation, energy production or transmission, as the area is adequately served by existing roads and has access to utilities in existing public right of ways.

**(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 are no effects on the transportation of energy resources.

(ii) There are no recyclable commodities moved over the Line.

(iii) There will be no change in energy consumption from the proposed action.

(iv)(A)(B) There will not be any rail-to-motor diversion of freight traffic, as the Line hosts no freight traffic, and has not for more than two years.

**(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 subsection (5)(i)(A) will apply.

**Response:** The proposed abandonment of a long-out-of-service Line will trigger no such increases.

**(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 reinstitution of service over a previously abandoned line, only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply.

**Response:** There will be no changes in rail traffic, rail yard activity, or truck traffic as a result of 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 action 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) There are no known hazardous materials 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) and (ii). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service were contacted. No response has been received to date. Also, the Line does not appear to enter any national or state parks or forests,

wildlife sanctuaries, or refuges.

**(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. (Applicants 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 U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 office and the Missouri Division of Environmental Quality have been contacted. To date, there has been no response.

(ii) The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has been contacted. A copy of the Corps response is attached. The Buyer intends to remove only the bridge superstructure, while the bridge abutment walls will generally remain in place. Based on this information, UP does not believe a Section 404 permit is required as the abandonment undertaking will have no impacts to wetlands or the River Des Peres.

(iii) UP does not anticipate that there will be any required 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 extends approximately 0.55 miles from Milepost 11.58 to Milepost 11.03. There are no federally granted rights of way involved.

(3) Photographs of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area:

**Response:** See **Attachment No. 3.**

(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 to (3) and (4):** There is one bridge on the line 50 years or older. See photographs in **Attachment No. 3.**

(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 UP's response to question (1) in the Environmental Report for a brief history and description.

(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:** There is one bridge on the line 50 years or older. Please refer to **Attachment No. 1** and **Attachment No. 3.**

(7) An opinion (based on readily available information in the UP'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:** The State of Missouri Historic Preservation Office has been contacted.

The Missouri Historic Preservation Office has determined that the proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties. Please see the attached letter.

**(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 non-railroad owned properties or groups 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:** If additional information is requested, UP will promptly supply the necessary information.

Dated this 12th day of March, 2024.

**Respectfully submitted,**

/s/ Christine A. Neuharth

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UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY  
Christine A. Neuharth  
Senior General Attorney  
1400 Douglas St, MS1580  
Omaha, NE 68179  
402-544-4764  
[caneuhar@up.com](mailto:caneuhar@up.com)

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing Combined Environmental and Historic Report in Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X), the Abandonment Exemption for the Rock Island Old Passenger Main in St. Louis County, MO, was served by First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the 12th day of March, 2024, on the following parties:

**State Clearinghouse (or Alternate):**

Missouri Federal Assistance Clearinghouse  
Office of Administration  
Missouri State Capitol Building, Room 125  
201 West Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 809  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:**

Headquarters  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Department of the Army  
St. Louis District, Corps of Engineers  
1222 Spruce Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

**State Environmental Protection Agency:**

Division of Environmental Quality  
1101 Riverside Drive, P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

**National Park Service:**

National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

**Environmental Protection Agency (Regional Office):**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7  
11201 Renner Boulevard  
Lenexa, KS 66219

**U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service:**

Terry Cosby, Chief  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
1400 Independence Ave.  
Washington, DC 20250

**State of Missouri Historic Preservation Office:**

Tammy Boeschen  
Missouri SHPO Review, Compliance, and Records  
Missouri Dept of Natural Resources  
1659 E Elm St, P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**National Geodetic Survey:**

NGS Information Services, NOAA, N/NGS12  
Geodetic Services Division SSMC-3 #9340  
1315 E-W Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282  
[RRAE@noaa.gov](mailto:RRAE@noaa.gov)

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:**

Martha Williams, Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

**Head of St. Louis County, Missouri:**

Dr. Sam Page, County Executive, St. Louis County  
41 South Central  
Clayton, MO 63105

Stephanie Leon Streeter, PE  
Director, Dept of Transportation & Public Works  
1050 North Lindbergh  
St. Louis, MO 63132

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District  
2350 Market Street  
St. Louis, MO 63103

Dated this 12th day of March, 2024

/s/ Christine A. Neuharth

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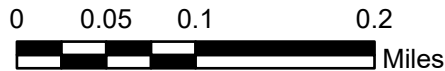
Christine A. Neuharth



**Legend**

- ABANDONMENT
- OTHER UPRR LINES
- OTHER RAILROADS
- PRINCIPAL HIGHWAYS
- OTHER ROADS
- 50 + YEAR OLD STRUCTURE

DOCKET AB33 (SUB NO. 350X) AND  
AB 1338X  
ST. LOUIS MISSOURI  
MP 11.03 TO MP 11.58  
TOTAL OF .55 MILES IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY  
IN MISSOURI  
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CO.  
ROCK ISLAND OLD PASSENGER MAIN





BUILDING AMERICA®

January 17, 2024

**State Clearinghouse (or Alternate):**

Missouri Federal Assistance Clearinghouse  
Office of Administration  
Missouri State Capitol Building, Room 125  
201 West Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 809  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:**

Headquarters  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314-1000

**State Environmental Protection Agency:**

Division of Environmental Quality  
1101 Riverside Drive  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

**National Park Service:**

National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

**Environmental Protection Agency (Regional Office):**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7  
11201 Renner Boulevard  
Lenexa, KS 66219

**U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service:**

Terry Cosby, Chief  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
1400 Independence Ave.  
Washington, DC 20250

**State of Missouri Historic Preservation Office:**

Missouri State Historic Preservation Office  
1659 E Elm St.  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**National Geodetic Survey:**

NGS Information Services, NOAA, N/NGS12  
Geodetic Services Division SSMC-3 #9340  
1315 E-W Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:**

Martha Williams, Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

**Head of St. Louis County, Missouri:**

Dr. Sam Page, County Executive, St. Louis County  
41 South Central  
Clayton, MO 63105

**Re: Proposed Abandonment of the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, St. Louis County, MO, STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X), Union Pacific Railroad Company**

**Proposed Discontinuance of Service on the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, St. Louis County, MO, STB Docket No. AB 1338X, Missouri Eastern Railroad, LLC**

To Whom It May Concern:

Union Pacific Railroad Company and Missouri Eastern Railroad, LLC plan to request authority from the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon and to discontinue service over, respectively, a line segment known generally as the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, Missouri, extending from Milepost 11.58 to Milepost 11.03, a total distance of approximately 0.55 miles in St. Louis County, Missouri ("the Line"). The Line proposed for abandonment is shown in red on the attached map. There is one bridge located on the Line shown in black.



Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, and the corresponding environmental and historic impacts analysis regulations at 40 C.F. R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8, this is to request your assistance in identifying any potential effects of the proposed action as indicated in the paragraphs below. We do not anticipate any adverse impacts to the human environment or to any historic resources. However, if you identify any adverse impacts, describe any actions that are proposed in order to mitigate such impact. Please provide us with a written response that can be included in a Consolidated Environmental and Historic Report, which will be sent to the STB as part of the filing to authorize abandonment of the Line.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM. Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns.

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

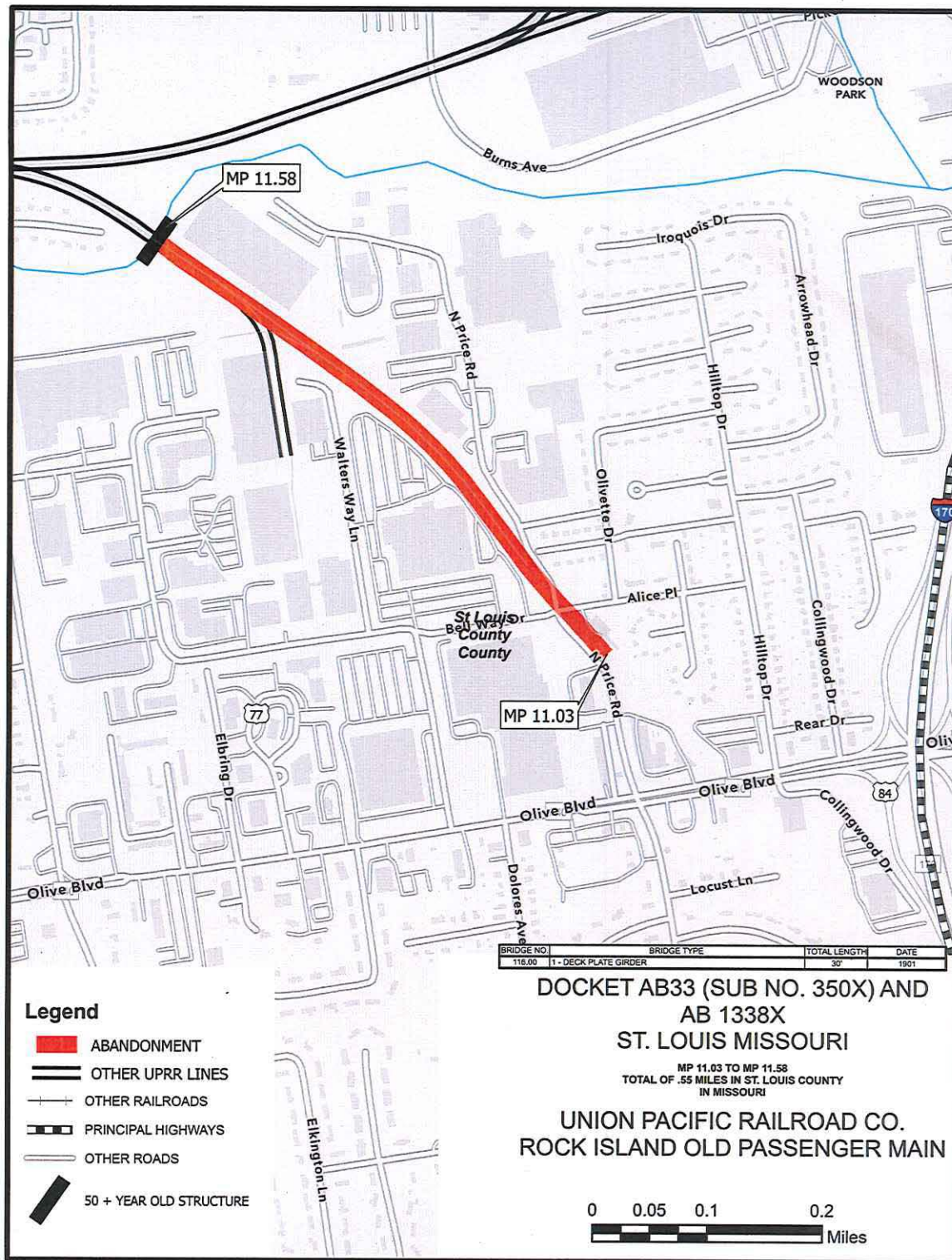
Thank you for your assistance. Please send your reply to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

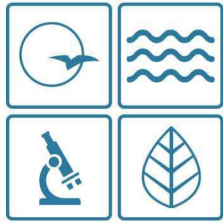


Christine A. Neuharth, Sr. General Attorney  
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Omaha, Nebraska 68179  
(402) 544-4764  
[caneuhar@up.com](mailto:caneuhar@up.com)

Attachment







**MISSOURI**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Michael L. Parson  
Governor

Dru Buntin  
Director

November 9, 2023

Angelica Gutierrez  
Great Rivers Greenway  
3745 Foundry Way, Suite 253  
St. Louis, MO 63110

Re: **SHPO Project Number: 002-SL-24** – Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Centennial Greenway-Union Pacific Railroad Bridge Abandonment, Olivette, St. Louis County, Missouri (STB)

Dear Angelica Gutierrez:

Thank you for submitting information to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the above-referenced project for review pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, P.L. 89-665, as amended (NHPA), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulation 36 CFR Part 800, which require identification and evaluation of historic properties.

We have reviewed the information regarding the above-referenced project and have included our comments on the following page(s). Please retain this documentation as evidence of consultation with the Missouri SHPO under Section 106 of the NHPA. SHPO concurrence does not complete the Section 106 process as federal agencies will need to conduct consultation with all interested parties. **Please be advised that, if the current project area or scope of work changes, such as a borrow area being added, or cultural materials are encountered during construction, appropriate information must be provided to this office for further review and comment.**

If you have questions please contact the SHPO at (573)751-7858 or call/email Jeffrey Alvey, (573) 751-7862, [jeffrey.alvey@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:jeffrey.alvey@dnr.mo.gov). If additional information is required please submit the information via email to [MOSection106@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:MOSection106@dnr.mo.gov).

Sincerely,

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Toni M. Prawl, PhD  
Director and Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer

c: Camilla McDonald, WSP USA Inc.  
Will Krussel, WSP USA Inc.



**SHPO Project Number: 002-SL-24** – Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Centennial Greenway-Union Pacific Railroad Bridge Abandonment, Olivette, St. Louis County, Missouri (STB)

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COMMENTS:

We have reviewed the cultural resources survey report entitled *Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Centennial Greenway-Union Pacific Railroad Bridge Abandonment* by Kathryn Wilkins and Kate Umlauf of WSP US, Inc. Based on this review it is evident that an adequate survey has been conducted of the project area. We concur that the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge should be considered **not eligible** for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. We further concur that the undertaking will have **no effect on historic properties** and have no objection to the initiation of project activities.



## Lori Casey

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**From:** Alvey, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Alvey@dnr.mo.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2024 3:41 PM  
**To:** Lori Casey  
**Cc:** Christine Neuharth  
**Subject:** RE: UPRR Rail Abandonment near Olivette, MO

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

You don't often get email from jeffrey.alvey@dnr.mo.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

**\* PROCEED WITH CAUTION - This email was sent from outside the Company \***

Hi Lori,  
That will be our only response.

Best,  
Jeffrey

Jeffrey S. Alvey, PhD, RPA  
Archaeologist and Review, Compliance & Records Section Chief  
Missouri State Historic Preservation Office  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573)751-7862  
Mostateparks.com/SHPO

*We'd like your feedback on the service you received from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Please consider taking a few minutes to complete the department's Customer Satisfaction Survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MoDNRsurvey>. Thank you.*

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**From:** Lori Casey <ljcasey@up.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2024 3:17 PM  
**To:** Alvey, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Alvey@dnr.mo.gov>  
**Cc:** Christine Neuharth <CANEUHAR@UP.COM>  
**Subject:** UPRR Rail Abandonment near Olivette, MO

Good afternoon, Mr. Alvey,

We recently sent an initial consultation letter to your office (attached) requesting assistance in identifying any potential effects of the following proposed action:

Proposed Abandonment of the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, St. Louis County, MO, STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X), Union Pacific Railroad Company  
Proposed Discontinuance of Service on the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, St. Louis County, MO, STB Docket No. AB 1338X, Missouri Eastern Railroad, LLC

The purchaser of the line, Great Rivers Greenway, had obtained a response from your office dated November 9, 2023 (attached), referencing SHPO Project No. 002-SL-24.

We are inquiring whether we may rely on the November 9, 2023 response in regard to this abandonment or if we should expect a separate response. Will you confirm?



**Lori Casey**  
Paralegal

Union Pacific Railroad – Law Department  
1400 Douglas Street, Mail Stop 1580, Omaha, NE 68179  
PHONE: 402-544-2210 | EMAIL: [ljcasey@up.com](mailto:ljcasey@up.com)

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**ST. LOUIS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**1222 SPRUCE STREET**  
**ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2833**

Programs and Project Management Division  
Project Management Branch

29 February 2024

Ms. Christine Neuharth  
Sr. General Attorney  
Union Pacific Railroad Company  
1400 Douglas Street, MS 1580  
Omaha, Nebraska 68179

Dear Ms. Neuharth:

In response to Union Pacific Railroad Company's proposed abandonment of the Rock Island Old Passenger Main near Olivette, Missouri (STB Docket No. AB 1338x, Missouri Eastern Railroad, LLC), we appreciate the opportunity to review the letter and documentation that was provided. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) does undertake projects which might be impacted by these actions.

Our Regulatory Branch as well as our Project Management Branch have reviewed the documentation that you provided. If the existing rail line is abandoned and proposed to remain in place with no impacts to wetlands or waters of the U.S., then a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit is not required. According to the map, a section of the line crosses over a waterway. If there is work planned within this waterway, then a permit review from our office may be required.

There is also an ongoing Civil Works project just downstream of the bridge crossing over the River Des Peres near Woodson Road Park, however, it does not appear that abandoning the rail line will negatively impact the project. There are several flood risk management considerations that Union Pacific Railroad should document and address as it moves forward in the abandonment process.

1. If the rail line is abandoned, will the bridge be left in place?
2. Who is the responsible party for long-term maintenance around the vacated bridge?
3. Does this bridge have a history of woody debris, trash, and/or sediment accumulation impeding conveyance through the bridge opening?
4. If the bridge is removed, what actions will be taken to stabilize the channel bed and banks in the bridge footprint?

Please continue to keep the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District informed throughout the process. Please contact Matt Jones, FRM Project Manager with any additional questions or comments at [Matthew.A.Jones@usace.army.mil](mailto:Matthew.A.Jones@usace.army.mil) or via phone at (314) 331-8293. He will be in communication with the USACE Regulatory Branch.

We look forward to working with you through this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Jones', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew Jones  
Flood Risk Management Project Manager  
Project Management Branch



**Michael L. Parson**  
Governor

State of Missouri  
**OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION**  
Post Office Box 809  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102  
Phone: (573) 751-1851

**Kenneth J. Zellers**  
Commissioner

February 13, 2024

Christine Neuharth  
1400 Douglas Street  
MS 1580  
Omaha, NE 68179

Subject: 2408007  
Legal Name: Union Pacific Railroad Co  
Agency:  
Project Description: Proposed Abandonment of the on the Rock  
Island Old Passenger Main new Olivette, St. Louis County, MO,  
STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 350X), Union Pacific Railroad  
Company  
Proposed Discontinuance of Service on the Rock Island Old  
Passenger Main new Olivett

The Missouri Federal Assistance Clearinghouse, in cooperation with state and local agencies interested or possibly affected, has completed the review on the above project application.

None of the agencies involved in the review had comments or recommendations to offer at this time. This concludes the Clearinghouse's review.

A copy of this letter is to be attached to the application as evidence of compliance with the State Clearinghouse requirements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Sara VanderFeltz".

Sara VanderFeltz  
Administrative Assistant

cc: East-West Gateway



**SAINT LOUIS COUNTY**  
Transportation and Public Works

February 22, 2024

Ms. Christine Neuharth  
Sr. General Attorney  
Union Pacific Railroad Company  
1400 Douglas Street, MS 1580  
Omaha, Nebraska 68179

Dear Ms. Neuharth,

Please find below St. Louis County's response to fulfill your need to document impacts of a proposed railroad corridor abandonment. Your letter of January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 stated that 0.55 miles of the Rock Island Old Passenger Main is proposed for abandonment in Olivette, Missouri.

First, the proposed action has no effect on the transportation system maintained by St. Louis County. We are aware that Great Rivers Greenway, a local taxing authority established for the purpose of creating a regional cycling network, is already working with the railroad to incorporate this corridor into the Centennial Greenway. St. Louis County supports this project.

Second, while land use surrounding this railroad corridor is under the jurisdiction of the City of Olivette, the St. Louis County Department of Planning staff support Union Pacific Railroad's abandonment of the portion of track specified in Olivette. They believe the abandonment of the track will not negatively affect the surrounding area. Further, this section of the track has not been used or maintained for some time, and the land has been reclaimed by the vegetation. Additionally, the surrounding industrial and commercial uses in the area do not rely on this portion of track for commerce. Currently, the track is bounded on either side by fencing. Given the state of the track, an effort to repurpose the abandoned track as common areas for the residential areas in the northwest and southeast may benefit the local community.

**OPPORTUNITY  
CENTRAL**

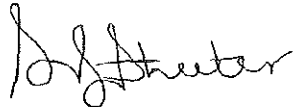
Response Letter to Ms. Neuharth  
Union Pacific Railroad Company  
Page 2

Third, the proposed action has no impact on prime agricultural land as the abandoned corridor is within an urban area with no agricultural land use.

Fourth, St. Louis County is not aware of any adverse impact to threatened or endangered species. However, we also have no jurisdiction over River Des Peres or County owned parks in the immediate vicinity.

Finally, state and/or local water quality standards are not within the jurisdiction of St. Louis County. The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District has the authority. They also maintain the area Section 404 permit and should be consulted if not already contacted. And, regarding environmental protection and hazardous waste spills, St. Louis County does not have jurisdiction. This also falls under the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Streeter'.

Stephanie Leon Streeter, P.E.  
Director, Department of Transportation and Public Works  
1050 N. Lindbergh  
Saint Louis, MO 63132  
(314) 615-8504











