



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**Maritime
Administration**

July 22, 2019

Joseph E. Wilkinson
Review Coordinator for Transportation Projects
State Historic Preservation Office
SC Department of Archives & History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223

RE: *Cultural resources survey for the Proposed Inland Port/BMW Lead Extension, Greer, Spartanburg County, South Carolina*

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

Please find attached a copy of the above-referenced report that describes cultural resources investigations conducted for the proposed expansion of Inland Port Greer (IPG) and the extension of the lead [railroad] track east of the Port. Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSRC), South Carolina Ports Authority (SCPA), and the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) jointly applied for and were awarded a US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant to help finance a connected group of independent projects to increase rail shipping capacity, including improvements to Inland Port Greer. The attached study was conducted under the auspices of this improvement program. The United States Maritime Administration (MARAD) is the lead federal agency for this undertaking. SCDOT is overseeing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies for the project on behalf of MARAD.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project is the sum of the NSRC lead track project and the SCPA IPG expansion. The IPG expansion project includes additional at-grade expansion of the rail yard on the north side of the IPG, and new container lots east and west of the IPG and adjacent to International Commerce Boulevard. The IPG expansion also includes a proposed transportation operations building. The APE for the lead track extension stretches for approximately 3800 feet along the existing NRCS right of way east of the Port facility. The lead track extension will parallel an existing rail line within the NRCS right of way.

The cultural resources survey resulted in the documentation of three previously unrecorded structures believed to be 50 years of age or older. Resource # 1548 is ca. 1900 1.5-story hipped roof residence associated with three historic outbuildings, including a crib and chicken coop, a carport, and an equipment shed. Resource # 1549 is a ca. 1940 wood-framed residence associated with a single outbuilding, a garage. Resource # 1550 is a ca. 1550 minimal traditional house associated with one outbuilding, a garage. All of these structures are accessed as **not eligible** for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

No archaeological resources were recorded during the cultural resources investigation, and in general the APE was found to have been heavily disturbed by previous development within the port facility, as well as by previous rail line and utility construction.



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Based on the results of the background research and field investigations, MARAD has determined that **no historic properties will be affected** by the proposed undertaking. MARAD seeks concurrence by your office with this finding pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(c)(1). In the event your office disagrees with the finding, please notify us within 30 days. Please respond within this timeframe, otherwise we will assume that you concur with our finding.

If you have additional questions or comments, please contact the undersigned and/or SCDOT. Please note that MARAD has authorized SCDOT to consult with your Agency on behalf of MARAD for the purposes of this project. We request that you provide a copy your response to the following at SCDOT:

Dr. William Jurgelski
SCDOT Archaeologist/NEPA Coordinator
955 Park Street
Columbia, SC 29202
JurgelskWM@scdot.org

Sincerely,

Kris Gilson, REM, CHMM
Environmental Protection Specialist
202.366.1939
kristine.gilson@dot.gov

I (~~do not~~) concur in the above determination.

Signed: Joseph E. Wilkinson Date: 8/2/19

ec: Russell Townsend, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Stephen J. Yerka, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Elizabeth Toombs, Cherokee Nation
LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Karen Pritchett, United Keetoowah
Charlotte Wolfe, United Keetoowah

cc: Wenonah G. Haire, Catawba Nation
Keith Derting, SCIAA



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