The request from United States Cellular Corporation (USSC), for Emergency Authorization for standard Section 106 review to proceed, dated and posted on ECFS on July 24, 2020, for the following TCNS#s 196448 and 199294 is granted via this email.

On June 25, 2020, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau issued a Public Notice announcing an electronic process for FCC licensees to apply for emergency authorization to resume standard historic preservation review for qualifying critical infrastructure projects during this COVID-19 crisis. See Section 106 Emergency Authorizations During Covid-19, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 5977 (WTB 2020). USSC requested an emergency authorization [click here to view request] under this process based upon two of the criteria set forth in the Public Notice – “needs of unserved/underserved areas due to COVID-19 effects,” and “support of public safety initiatives (e.g. public safety network deployments) or critical infrastructure initiatives (e.g., transportation and utilities) prioritized by Federal, State, or local governments or by public safety authorities to meet communications needs during the COVID-19 crisis.”

Standard Section 106 review will proceed for these projects in accordance with the procedures established in the Second Report and Order, notwithstanding State or Tribal Historic Preservation Office closures. See Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, Second Report and Order, 33 FCC Rcd 3102, 3151, para. 111 (2018) (Second Report and Order), remanded in part sub nom., United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians v. FCC, 933 F.3d 728 (D.C. Cir. 2019).

Leon J. Jackler
Senior Counsel, Competition and Infrastructure Policy Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
202-418-0946
leon.jackler@fcc.gov