

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Section 106 Review for Telecommunications Projects

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) enacted a Nationwide Programmatic Agreement in 2004 that established procedures for fulfilling its Section 106 obligations. Since that time, the FCC has developed standardized forms, an online Learning Interactive Unit (<https://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/tower-and-antenna-siting>), and an electronic submission site (E-106*).

Requirements established by the 2004 Nationwide Programmatic Agreement, Section II, item 13:

Form 620 for new tower construction or Form 621 for collocation, plus:

- Résumés/Vitae
- Additional Site Information
- Tribal and NHO Involvement
- Local Government
- Public Involvement (Public Notice)
- Additional Consulting Parties
- Areas of Potential Effects (APE)
- Historic Properties Identified in the APE for Visual Effects
- Historic Properties Identified in the APE for Direct Effects
- Effects on Identified Properties
- Photographs
- Maps

Please refer to Forms 620 and 621 for specific requirements for each attachment. The full Programmatic Agreement and Collocation Agreement are online at <https://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/tower-and-antenna-siting>.

For basic training, visit http://esupport.fcc.gov/wtb-training/FCC_Section_106_Rules_Administration.pdf.

E-106: *The Texas Historical Commission (THC) DOES NOT participate in E-106.

TCNS: The FCC's Tower Construction Notification System is **required** to fulfill tribal consultation. For more information, visit http://esupport.fcc.gov/wtb-training/TCNS_final.pdf.

Helpful tips and inclusions for THC review:

- Project description and complete project information on cover letter or form
- Brief résumés/vitae for appropriate consultants—more than a single page is too much!
- Potential consulting parties: each county has a County Historical Commission, and the primary contact person is updated each month at <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/county-historical-commission-outreach/what-are-county-historical>.
- The THC's Historic Sites Atlas is a listing of historic properties: <http://atlas.thc.state.tx.us/>. Note this listing may not be current and does not include all eligible properties, so a windshield survey of the APE is helpful in determining existing historic properties. Additionally historical markers do not necessarily indicate a historic property and could be subject markers only. A Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) or State Antiquities Landmark (SAL) would be considered a historic property.
- Maps and photos:
 - Aerial photos showing development over the past 50 years
 - Keyed map showing direction and location from which photos are taken
 - A map to scale showing the appropriate APE plus a vicinity map
 - Photos of typical area building types help when there is an eligible or listed historic district
 - Site plans and elevations of proposed structure/collocation
 - Photos of and from National Register-eligible resources, with simulated tower height where applicable
- For collocation projects on towers, check records for previous Section 106 consultation on the extant tower and accurately note this information on the Form 621.

If you have any questions about the THC's review process for telecommunications projects, please contact Sarah K. Forbes at sarah.forbes@thc.state.tx.us. (Updated 2015.)

Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276
512.463.6100
fax 512.475.4872
thc@thc.state.tx.us



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www.thc.state.tx.us