Hello Emily,

I was ready to disagree with the project charter being on the critical path (or at least I think you were hinting toward that end) until I read your statement on its importance. “Since the project's authority comes from the charter, it would cause the other work packages to be unable to start if they rely on the completion of the charter.” I was also thinking that if you messed up the charter, even though you said it is a living document, I can now see it creating problems in the future.

Initiation and closeout have differences, to be sure, but I do see some overlay. Particularly when it comes to stakeholders, I would think at the point of closure; however, the project charter would be already closed, but I could be wrong. I am fighting that thought in my head right now. “This formal document provides a high-level overview of the project’s purpose, objectives, scope, and key stakeholders.” It seems it lays out the project's objectives, goals, etc.

The project charter does seem like an important document. Knowing who to contact in case of issues is valuable. The parts of the charter confirm this, “In simple terms, you can consider stakeholders as anyone with a tie to the project who will need to be updated on the project at some point throughout the project lifecycle, regardless of their role.” (Lauren , 2023) From our other reading, we know that we can pull from outside our expertise to seek resolutions.

Reference:  
*Aldridge, E. (2023, September 14). What is a Project Charter In Project Management? Project Management Academy Resources.* [*https://projectmanagementacademy.net/resources/blog/pmp-project-charter/*](https://projectmanagementacademy.net/resources/blog/pmp-project-charter/)

Lauren Good. (2023, November 20). *What Is a Project Charter in Project Management?* Project-Management.com. <https://project-management.com/what-is-a-project-charter/>