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SERVICE DATE - MARCH 13, 2000

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 165X)

NORFOLK & WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY—
ABANDONMENT—IN CINCINNATI (ST. BERNARD), OH

Decided: March 6, 2000

The Norfolk & Western Railway Company (N&W) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 0.85-mile rail line between milepost C-0.00 and C-0.85 in Cincinnati (St. Bernard), OH. Notice was served and published in the Federal Register on December 15, 1994 (59 FR 64698).

By decision served January 13, 1995, the proceeding was reopened at the request of the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), and the exemption was made subject to the condition that N&W retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of the Vine Street Trestle, which is located on the line, until completion of the section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f.

SEA indicates that, in a letter dated February 7, 2000, the Ohio State Historic Preservation Officer has stated that the documentation needed to complete the historic preservation process has been compiled for the Vine Street Trestle, and that the trestle may now be demolished. Therefore, SEA recommends that the historic preservation condition imposed in this proceeding be removed.

Accordingly, this proceeding will be reopened and the previously imposed historic preservation condition will be removed.

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. This proceeding is reopened.
2. Upon reconsideration, the section 106 historic preservation condition imposed in the decision served January 13, 1995, is removed.

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3. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary