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SERVICE DATE - SEPTEMBER 24, 2001

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 596X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.--ABANDONMENT
EXEMPTION--IN LORAIN COUNTY, OH

Decided: September 20, 2001

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 1.17-mile line of railroad between milepost BJ-161.00 and milepost BJ-162.17 in Lorain, Lorain County, OH. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on August 24, 2001 (67 FR 44664-65). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on September 25, 2001.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on August 31, 2001. In the EA, SEA states that the Ohio Historical Society, Historic Preservation Division, has not yet completed the assessment of the potential impact of this project on historic resources. Therefore, SEA recommends the imposition of a condition requiring CSXT to retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of the line in its entirety until completion of the section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f (NHPA).

Additionally, SEA states that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified one geodetic station marker that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. Therefore, SEA recommends that CSXT notify NGS 90 days prior to salvage activities in order to plan its relocation.

The recommended conditions will be imposed.

As conditioned, this decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the line described above is subject to the conditions that CSXT shall: (1) retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of the line until completion of the section 106 process of the NHPA; and (2) consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic station marker.

2. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary