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SERVICE DATE - NOVEMBER 13, 2002

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 623X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.–ABANDONMENT
EXEMPTION–IN PUTNAM COUNTY, IN

Decided: November 12, 2002

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F–Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 0.47-mile line of railroad between milepost 00Q-189.18 (north side of Grant Street) and the end of track at milepost 00Q-189.65, in Cloverdale, Putnam County, IN. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on October 16, 2002 (67 FR 63962-63). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on November 15, 2002.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on October 21, 2002. In the EA, SEA states that the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology has not completed its review of the proposed abandonment. Therefore, SEA recommends that CSXT be required to retain its interest in the line until completion of the section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f (NHPA).

SEA also states that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified two geodetic station markers that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. NGS requests that it be notified 90 days in advance of any activities that may disturb or destroy these markers to plan for their relocation. Therefore, SEA recommends that a condition be imposed requiring CSXT to consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic station markers in order to plan for their relocation.

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. This proceeding is reopened.

2. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the rail line described above is subject to the condition that CSXT: (a) retain its interest in the line until completion of the section 106 process of the NHPA; and (b) consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying the geodetic markers on the line in order to plan for their relocation.

3. This decision is effective on its date of service.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary