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SERVICE DATE - JULY 26, 2002

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 586X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.–ABANDONMENT
EXEMPTION–IN McMINN COUNTY, TN

Decided: July 24, 2002

A decision and notice of interim trail use or abandonment (NITU) served on July 27, 2001 (as corrected that same day), authorized CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), to abandon a .84-mile segment of a line of railroad known as the Athens & Tellico Branch,¹ extending from milepost OKW 333.40 to milepost OKW 334.24 in Athens, McMinn County, TN. According to the decision, if consummation has not been effected by CSXT's filing of a notice of consummation by July 27, 2002, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

In a request filed by facsimile on July 22, 2002, CSXT seeks to extend, until January 27, 2003, the time to consummate the abandonment and to file its notice of consummation for that portion of the line extending between milepost OKW 333.62 and milepost OKW 334.24. CSXT also states that it intends to allow the abandonment authority granted for the line segment extending between milepost OKW 333.40 and milepost OKW 333.62 to expire. The extension request appears reasonable and will be granted.

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

It is ordered:

1. CSXT's request for an extension of time is granted.
2. The authority to abandon the line segment extending between milepost OKW 333.62 and milepost OKW 334.24 must be exercised on or before January 27, 2003.

¹ The line is formally designated as Central Region, Appalachian Division, Athens & Tellico Branch, KD Subdivision.

3. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary