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SERVICE DATE – FEBRUARY 25, 2008

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-32 (Sub-No. 101X)

BOSTON AND MAINE CORPORATION—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—IN  
HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

Decided: February 22, 2008

Boston and Maine Corporation (B&M) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon approximately .73 miles of railroad known as the Canal Branch, extending from milepost 24.00 to milepost 24.73 in Hartford County, CT. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on January 25, 2008 (73 FR 4669).<sup>1</sup> The exemption is scheduled to become effective on February 26, 2008.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) issued an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding that was served on February 1, 2008. In the EA, SEA indicates that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has advised that three geodetic station markers may be affected by the proposed abandonment and has requested notification from B&M at least 90 days prior to any activities that would disturb or destroy the markers in order to plan for their relocation. Therefore, SEA recommends a condition requiring B&M to consult with NGS and notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers in order to plan for the possible relocation of the markers.

Comments to the EA were due on February 18, 2008. SEA did not receive any additional comments. Accordingly, the condition recommended by SEA in the EA will be imposed.

As conditioned, this action 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.

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<sup>1</sup> The notice also embraced STB Docket No. AB-355 (Sub-No. 35X), Springfield Terminal Railway Company—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Hartford County, CT, in which Springfield Terminal Railway Company sought an exemption to discontinue service over the line.

2. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the line described above is subject to the condition that B&M shall consult with NGS and notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers in order to plan for the possible relocation of the markers.

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

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

Anne K. Quinlan  
Acting Secretary