

SERVICE DATE - JULY 24, 1997

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 111X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY--ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION--
IN JEFFERSON COUNTY, WI

Decided: July 21, 1997

The Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon approximately 2.0 miles of its line of railroad, known as the Clyman Branch, from the end of the line at milepost 110.0 to milepost 112.0, near Fort Atkinson, Jefferson County, WI. The notice was served and published in *Federal Register* on June 26, 1997 (62 FR 34497-98). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on July 26, 1997.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) has issued an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding, served July 1, 1997. In the EA, SEA indicates that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified three geodetic station markers that may be affected by the abandonment. NGS states that it must be notified 90 days in advance to plan for relocation of any marker that may be disturbed or destroyed. Therefore, SEA recommends that a condition be imposed requiring UP to consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic markers.

SEA also indicates that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has requested that, during salvage activities, UP comply with the State of Wisconsin Abandoned Railroad Line Salvage and Clean-up Procedures. Therefore, SEA recommends that a condition be imposed requiring UP to comply with the State of Wisconsin Abandoned Railroad Line Salvage and Clean-up Procedures and to consult with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation concerning permits for salvage operations at state highway-railroad at-grade crossings.

The recommended conditions will be imposed.

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

It is so ordered:

1. This proceeding is reopened.
2. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the line described above is subject to the conditions that UP shall: (a) consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic markers; and (b) comply with the State of Wisconsin Abandoned Railroad Line Salvage and Clean-up Procedures and consult with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation concerning permits for salvage operations at state highway-railroad at-grade crossings.
3. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary