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SERVICE DATE - DECEMBER 19, 2001

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 185X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY–
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION–IN PULASKI COUNTY, AR

Decided: December 14, 2001

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights to abandon a 0.63-mile rail line over the Junction Bridge Line from milepost 343.65 to milepost 343.02, and a 2.1-mile rail line over the Rock Street Industrial Lead from the Amtrak connection near milepost 345.3 to milepost 347.4 near E. 6th Street, a total distance of 2.73 miles, in Pulaski County, Little Rock, AR. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on November 20, 2001 (66 FR 58190-91). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on December 20, 2001.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on November 23, 2001. In the EA, SEA states that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified seven 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 in order to plan for their relocation. 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 station markers in order to plan for their relocation. The condition will be imposed.

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 condition that UP 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.

2. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary