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SERVICE DATE – JANUARY 12, 2005

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-319 (Sub No. 4X)

FLORIDA CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY, INC.–ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION–IN
SEMINOLE AND ORANGE COUNTIES, FL

Decided: January 11, 2005

Florida Central Railroad Company, Inc. (FCEN) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F–Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 3.4-mile line of railroad known as Forest City Spur, between milepost F-4.5 at Toronto, and the end of the track at milepost F-1.1 in Forest City, in Seminole and Orange Counties, FL. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on December 14, 2004 (69 FR 74566-67). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on January 13, 2005.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on December 17, 2004. In the EA, SEA states that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified two geodetic station markers that may be affected by the proposed abandonment and requests 90 days' notification in advance of any activities that may disturb or destroy these markers. Therefore, SEA recommends that FCEN consult with NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to salvage activities to plan for the relocation of the markers.

The recommended condition will be imposed. 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. The proceeding is reopened.
2. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the rail line described above is subject to the condition that FCEN notify NGS at least 90 days prior to any salvage activities to plan for the relocation of the geodetic station markers.

3. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary