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SERVICE DATE - NOVEMBER 24, 1998

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 127X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY--ABANDONMENT  
EXEMPTION--IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA

Decided: November 20, 1998

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuance of Service and Trackage Rights to abandon and discontinue service over a 2.2-mile line of railroad on the Torrance Branch extending from milepost 500.67 to the end of the line at milepost 502.87 in Torrance, Los Angeles County, CA. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on October 26, 1998 (63 FR 57160). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on November 25, 1998.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on October 30, 1998.<sup>1</sup> In the EA, SEA states that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified three 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 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 markers.

SEA also states that the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LA DOT) has indicated that the Torrance Line is located not only in Los Angeles County and the City of Torrance, but also in the City of Los Angeles. LA DOT states that UP will be required to have the approval of the three jurisdictions for removal of the track. Accordingly, SEA recommends imposition of a condition requiring that, prior to salvage operations, UP consult with Mr. Brian Sunshine, City of Torrance, Assistance to the City Manager, 3031 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503, Mr. Bill Winters, County of Los Angeles, Supervising Civil Engineer III Program Development Division, P. O. Box 1460, Alhambra, CA 91802-1460, Mr. Aurelio A. Albaisa, City of Los Angeles, Transportation Engineer LA DOT, 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90012, and Mr. Victor M. Osugi, District Engineer, Bureau of Engineering, 638 So. Beacon St., Ste. 400, San Pedro, CA 90731-3346.

The recommended conditions will be imposed.

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<sup>1</sup> Corrections to the EA were served on November 5, 1998, and November 9, 1998.

This decision 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.

2. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the line described above is subject to the conditions that UP shall: (1) consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic station markers; and (2) consult with Mr. Brian Sunshine, City of Torrance, Assistance to the City Manager, 3031 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503, Mr. Bill Winters, County of Los Angeles, Supervising Civil Engineer III Program Development Division, P.O. Box 1460, Alhambra, CA 91802-1460, Mr. Aurelio A. Albaisa, City of Los Angeles, Transportation Engineer LA DOT, 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90012, and Mr. Victor M. Osugi, District Engineer, Bureau of Engineering, 638 So. Beacon St., Ste. 400, San Pedro, CA 90731-3346.

3. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary