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SERVICE DATE – LATE RELEASE APRIL 27, 2006

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1186X)

CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION–ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION–IN
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NJ

Decided: April 27, 2006

Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F–Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 1-mile portion of a line of railroad known as the Clayville Industrial Track, extending from milepost 0.0_± to milepost 1.0_± in Vineland, Cumberland County, NJ. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on October 20, 2005 (70 FR 61169-70). The exemption became effective on November 19, 2005.

By decision served on November 15, 2005, the proceeding was reopened at the request of the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) and the exemption was made subject to the condition that, pending completion of the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office's (SHPO) review, Conrail shall retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all sites and structures on the right-of-way that are 50 years old or older until completion of the section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f. The historic condition was imposed because the SHPO had not completed its assessment of the proposed abandonment at the time SEA prepared its environmental assessment.

In a letter dated April 7, 2006, the SHPO informed SEA that the proposed abandonment will have no adverse effect on historic properties listed on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, based on the information provided, SEA recommends that the section 106 historic preservation condition imposed in the November 15, 2005 decision be removed.

Accordingly, the proceeding will be reopened and the previously imposed historic preservation condition will be removed.

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 section 106 historic preservation condition imposed in the November 15, 2005 decision is removed.
3. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary