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SERVICE DATE – NOVEMBER 17, 2011

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. AB 145 (Sub-No. 1X)

CARROLLTON RAILROAD—ABANDONMENT  
EXEMPTION—IN CARROLL COUNTY, KY.

Decided: November 16, 2011

Carrollton Railroad (CRR) and CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), jointly filed a notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. pt. 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service, for CRR to abandon, and for CSXT to discontinue service over, approximately 0.79 miles of rail line on CSXT's Northern Region, Louisville Division, LCL Subdivision, between mileposts 0CR 6.72 and 0CR 7.51, at the end of the track in Carrollton, Carroll County, Ky. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on October 19, 2011 (76 Fed. Reg. 64992).<sup>1</sup> The exemptions are scheduled to become effective on November 18, 2011.

The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on October 24, 2011. In the EA, OEA indicates that the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) submitted a letter responding to applicants' inquiry concerning the presence of prime agricultural land in the area of the proposed abandonment. NRCS provided a soils map showing where there is prime farmland located along the line. Accordingly, OEA recommends that a condition be imposed on any decision granting abandonment authority requiring CRR to consult with NRCS regarding the prime agricultural land identified in the area of the proposed abandonment, prior to the commencement of any salvage activity.

No comments to the EA were received. Accordingly, the condition recommended by OEA in the EA will be imposed. Based on OEA's recommendation, the proposed abandonment, if implemented as conditioned, 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.

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<sup>1</sup> The notice that was served and published embraced Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 715X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Carroll County, Ky.

2. Upon reconsideration, the notice served and published in the Federal Register on October 19, 2011, exempting the abandonment/discontinuance of the line described above is subject to the condition that CRR shall, prior to the commencement of any salvage activities, consult with NRCS regarding the prime agricultural land identified in the area of the proposed abandonment.

3. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.