



Ray Magruder
Manager - Network & Joint Facility Services

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Jacksonville, FL 32202
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September 9, 2010

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
395 East Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: CSXT Abandonment
Horse Creek Branch, Manchester, KY
STB Docket AB-55 (Sub-No. 704X)

Dear STB - SEA:

This refers to CSX Transportation's Notice for Exemption filed on August 16, 2010 requesting authority to abandon its rail line described above. Enclosed please find a copy of a response dated August 9, 2010 from Mr. Leroy Koch, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, stating "*No significant adverse impacts...*"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ray Magruder", written in a cursive style.

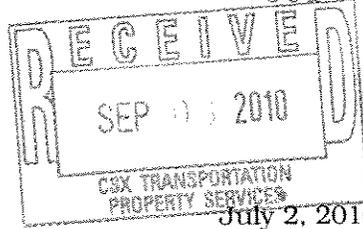
Attachment

Copy: Ms. Kathryn Barney, 500 Water Street-J150, Jacksonville, FL, 32202



Ray Magruder
Manager - Network Services

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2010-8-0759

Ms. Cynthia Dohner
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Southeast Region
1875 Century Blvd, Suite 400
Atlanta, GA 30345

No significant adverse impacts to wetlands
or federally listed endangered or threatened
species are anticipated from this proposal.

FRANKFORT FIELD OFFICE

for Ray M. Koch Aug. 9, 2010
Field Supervisor Date
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Frankfort, KY 40601

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Dear Ms. Dohner:

Please be advised that CSX Transportation (CSXT), Inc. is considering abandonment of a portion of its rail line from Railroad Milepost OCF 208.71 (Horse Creek Junction) to end of track at Railroad Milepost OCF 211.66 (near Paw Paw Road), a combined distance of 2.95 miles known as the Horse Creek Branch in Manchester, Clay County, Kentucky, as depicted on the attached map.

It is CSXT's intention to abandon and subsequently reclassify approximately 1.94 miles of the proposed abandonment from Railroad Milepost OCF 208.71 to Railroad Milepost OCF 210.65 (Crawfish Branch Road) as industry lead track. The reclassification of the line will allow CSXT to lease or sell a portion of this segment of the line to Revelation Energy Coal Company so they can reactivate the site and begin to receive rail service.

The remaining 1.01 miles of the line from Railroad Milepost OCF 210.65 (Crawfish Branch Road) to end of track at Railroad Milepost OCF 211.66 (near Paw Paw Road) will facilitate salvage activities including the removal of three (3) at-grade road crossings.

The action requires Surface Transportation Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7 (8) (i) and (ii) require that CSXT develop responses to the following statements:

- (i) Based on consultation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects.
- (ii) State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

The removal of CSXT's rail material will be accomplished by use of the right of way for access, along with existing public and private crossings, and no new access roads are contemplated. CSXT does not intend to disturb any of the underlying roadbeds and do not anticipate any dredging or use of fill in the removal of the track material. The crossties and/or other debris will be transported away from the rail line and will not be discarded along the right of way, nor be placed or left in streams or wetlands, or along the banks of such waterways. During track removal, appropriate measures will be implemented to prevent or control spills from fuels, lubricants or any other materials from entering any watercourses.

Based upon the above described actions, CSXT would appreciate your concurrence in its position that there would be no adverse impact to any federally-listed endangered or threatened species, critical habitats, wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks, or forests.

As further information, CSXT will provide a preliminary environmental report in the coming weeks which will outline the scope of the proposed salvage activity (as stated above) and include any comments received from your office.

Further enclosed, please find a distribution list of all parties that have been copied of the proposed action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M. J. [unclear]", written in a cursive style.

Attachment