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KARL MORELL



September 25, 2007

220332

BY HAND DELIVERY

Victoria Rutson  
Chief  
Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
SEP 25 2007  
Part of  
Public Record

Re: STB Docket No. AB-1000 (Sub-No. IX), Georgia Southwestern  
Railroad, Inc. – Abandonment Exemption – In Harris and Meriwether  
Counties, Georgia

Dear Ms. Rutson:

On June 26, 2007, we forwarded to you the Environmental Report and Historic Report in the above-captioned matter. On September 4, 2007, we forwarded to you the additional response we received from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Attached please find ten (10) copies of the additional response we received from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Sincerely,

Karl Morell

Enclosure



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

SEP 19 2007



Karl Morrell  
Ball Janik LLP  
1455 F Street, NW, Suite 225  
Washington, DC 20005

SUBJ: Docket No. AB-1000 (Sub-No. 1X), Georgia Southwestern Railroad, Inc.

Dear Mr. Morell:

This letter is in response to your letter dated September 4, 2007, requesting comments from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the proposed abandonment by Georgia Southwestern Railroad, Inc. of its 43-mile rail line located between milepost R-12.0, at Florida Rock and milepost R-55.0, at Allie, in Harris and Meriwether Counties, Georgia.

Please be aware that this activity would be subject to the requirements of the CWA if one or more acres of land are disturbed by clearing, grading or excavation and if storm water discharges from this disturbance enter a surface water body, by direct conveyance (i.e., pipe, ditch, etc.), or through a municipal separate storm sewer system. The State of Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) has been authorized to implement the NPDES permit program, under Section 402 of the CWA. Please rely on the response you receive from the State for a final determination in this matter.

If EPA can be of further assistance to you, please contact me. Thanks you for your efforts to seek information to assist you in protecting our environment.

Sincerely,

Roosevelt Childress  
Chief  
NPDES & Biosolids Permits Section  
Permits, Grants & Technical Assistance Branch  
Water Management Division

cc: Dominic Weatherill, GAEPD