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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ISSUED FOR PROPOSED ABANDONMENT OF HARSIMUS BRANCH IN JERSEY CITY, N.J.

The Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) today issued a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) as part of OEA's environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in the pending rail line abandonment proceeding, Consolidated Rail Corporation-Abandonment Exemption-in Hudson County, N.J., Docket No. AB 167 (Sub-No. 1189X), in which Conrail seeks authority to abandon the Harsimus Branch, a 1.36-mile rail line in Jersey City, N.J.

This Final EA summarizes and responds to the environmental comments received on the Draft Supplemental EA issued on September 10, 2020. The Final EA concludes that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted and recommends that the Board impose a Section 106 historic preservation condition in any decision that would grant Conrail abandonment authority. While historic issues are being considered in a separate process under the National Historic Preservation Act, issuance of the Final EA concludes the NEPA process in this proceeding and OEA is not requesting additional environmental comments.

To view the Final EA, click here.

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