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OEA

SERVICE DATE – MAY 2, 2022

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC 20423

SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 407X)

**Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption –
In Bergen County, N.J.**

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) has expired in this:
(X) Notice of Exemption () Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

() **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

(X) **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

On October 14, 2020, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) filed a notice of exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 1152.50 seeking exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 in connection with the abandonment of a line of railroad in Bergen County, New Jersey. The rail line proposed for abandonment extends approximately 1.2 miles from Milepost UQ 9.0 to Milepost UQ 10.2 (the Line). By decision served on January 26, 2021, the Board imposed a coastal zone condition, pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1465), and the Board's environmental regulations at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.9.

On March 24, 2022, OEA received an email from NSR which included a letter from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, stating that it concurs with NSR's determination that the proposed abandonment would not adversely affect the resources within New Jersey's coastal zone. Accordingly, because the Board has satisfied its responsibilities under the Coastal Zone Management Act, OEA recommends that the Board remove the coastal zone condition.

Conclusions

For the reasons stated above, OEA recommends that the Board remove the coastal zone condition imposed in its January 26, 2021 decision.

By the Board, Danielle Gosselin, Director, Office of Environmental Analysis.