

50759
OEA

SERVICE DATE – SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC 20423**

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Docket No. AB 1311

**Metro-North Commuter Railroad–Adverse Discontinuance
of Trackage Rights–Housatonic Railroad Company**

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) has expired in this:

() Notice of Exemption () Petition for Exemption (X) Regulated Abandonment

(X) NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

() NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

In this proceeding, Metro-North Commuter Railroad filed an application with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) under 49 U.S.C. § 10903 and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22 seeking adverse discontinuance of the trackage rights of Housatonic Railroad Company (Housatonic) over a 41.1-mile line of railroad known as the Beacon Line in Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York (the Beacon Line). The Beacon Line originates at milepost 0.0 in Beacon, N.Y., and travels northeast toward Beekman, N.Y., and then southeast toward Brewster, N.Y., and terminates at milepost 71.2 at the New York/Connecticut state line. The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served a Draft EA for this proceeding on August 5, 2022 for public review and comment. In the Draft EA, OEA recommended no environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusions

The Draft EA comment period has ended, and no conditions are recommended by OEA. Accordingly, OEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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