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To: [Assenza, Adam](#)
Subject: Docket No. AB 6 (Sub-No. 501X), BNSF Railway Company — Abandonment Exemption — In Contra Costa County, CA
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Adam,

I am currently reviewing the above project for the California SHPO and have a few questions. In reading the project description it appears that 0.79 miles of rail between MP 1190.9 and 1191.69 will be abandoned. Following abandonment BNSF will convey a 485-foot section of right-of-way to the East Bay Regional Park District (District) and release an easement that BNSF holds over the remaining portion of the Line. The Line includes the Ferry Point Pier, a historic property that was previously determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The abandonment allows BNSF to extinguish property rights related to the line and would allow the District to acquire the land under the line for incorporation into the Miller/Know Regional Shoreline Park. BNSF indicated that it does not intend to salvage the line. Once abandonment is approved, the line would leave the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) jurisdiction.

As I'm reading the documentation, I'm unclear as to what exactly the abandonment entails and what sort of protections are being put in place by STB to insure that no historic properties will be adversely affected by the undertaking.

I understand that BNSF has stated that they do not intend to conduct salvage or ground disturbing activities in connection with their abandonment. What mechanism is being used to guarantee this commitment once the property has left STB jurisdiction?

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