
Re: Lampwrights Request for an EA

From Webster, Elizabeth <Elizabeth.Webster@stb.gov>

Date Tue 7/8/2025 12:56 PM

To Marks, Justin J. <jmarks@ClarkHill.com>; Gosselin, Danielle <Danielle.Gosselin@stb.gov>

 1 attachment (202 KB)

Lampwrights_EIS Waiver Request_7.8.25.pdf;

Thank you, Justin. Attached please find OEA's letter approving the request for a waiver of the requirements of 49 C.F.R 1105.6(a) and allowing the preparation of an Environmental Assessment in this proceeding.

Thanks,
Elizabeth

From: Marks, Justin J. <jmarks@ClarkHill.com>

Sent: Friday, June 27, 2025 5:35 PM

To: Gosselin, Danielle <Danielle.Gosselin@stb.gov>; Webster, Elizabeth <Elizabeth.Webster@stb.gov>

Subject: Lampwrights Request for an EA

Danielle/Elizabeth:

Attached please find a letter from Lampwrights requesting that OEA analyze the Lampwrights proposed line under an EA.

Thanks,

Justin

Justin J. Marks

Attorney at Law

Clark Hill

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

July 8, 2025

Justin Marks
Clark Hill
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 1300 South
Washington, DC 20004

By email at jmarks@clarkhill.com

RE: Docket No. FD 36833, Lampwrights LLC – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Elk and Jefferson Counties, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Marks:

Thank you for your June 27, 2025 letter regarding Lampwrights, LLC's (Lampwrights) proposal to construct and operate approximately 20,427 feet of new rail line in Elk and Jefferson Counties, Pennsylvania. Lampwrights is seeking approval from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate the new rail line to facilitate waste-by-rail and serve the Greentree Landfill. According to your letter, a waiver of the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(a), which generally provides for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for rail line construction proposals, should be granted because the proposed project is limited in scope and an Environmental Assessment (EA) is the appropriate level of environmental review for the project.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(d), the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is granting your request. Based on the information available to date, OEA believes the potential environmental impacts would not be significant, and any impacts could most likely be addressed through appropriate mitigation measures. Therefore, OEA has determined that the preparation of an EA is appropriate in this case for the following reasons:

1. OEA conducted preliminary agency and tribal consultation and requested formal comments by May 25, 2025, during which minimal concerns regarding the project were raised from relevant agencies and tribes.
2. OEA visited the project site on June 17, 2025 to understand the existing conditions in the project area. Most of the proposed line would be within former railway roadbed, reducing the potential for construction-related disturbance to environmental or cultural resources.

3. The project is designed to replace existing long-haul truck traffic to and from the Greentree Landfill with waste-by-rail operations, reducing traffic on local roads and associated impacts on air quality and road safety.
4. OEA understands that only two trains per week (one inbound and one outbound) are expected to move on the proposed line. Due to the small volume of expected rail traffic, the potential for impacts related to air quality, roadway/rail at-grade crossing safety and delay, and noise during rail operations is expected to be low. Further, the use of hermetically sealed intermodal containers would reduce the potential for impacts related to safety and spills.

OEA will prepare a Draft EA and make the document available for public review and comment. OEA will then prepare a Final EA that responds to the substantive comments received on the Draft EA and includes any appropriate modifications to its existing analysis or additional analysis. The Final EA will also set forth OEA's final recommended mitigation measures to the Board. The Board will then consider the entire environmental record, including the Draft EA, all comments received on the Draft EA, and the Final EA, when making its final decision in this proceeding. However, should the EA process disclose unanticipated impacts that are significant and unable to be mitigated, OEA would require the preparation of an EIS at that time.

If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact Elizabeth Webster of my staff at 202-360-0742 or by email at Elizabeth.Webster@stb.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle Gosselin".

Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis