

52862
OCC

SERVICE DATE – JANUARY 8, 2026

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. AB 534 (Sub-No. 4X)

LAKE STATE RAILWAY COMPANY—
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—IN SAGINAW COUNTY, MICH.

Decided: January 8, 2026

Lake State Railway Company (LSRC) filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. part 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon approximately 6,805 feet of rail line extending from Sta. 9+00, approximately 270 feet northeast of the intersection of Carrollton Road and Ellsworth Road, to the end of line at Sta. 77+05, approximately 1,000 feet southwest of the North Niagara Street at-grade railroad crossing of the Huron & Eastern Railway Company, in Saginaw County, Mich. (the Line). Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on May 9, 2025 (90 Fed. Reg. 19,775). The exemption became effective on June 8, 2025.

By decision served June 6, 2025, two conditions were imposed on the abandonment of the Line, as recommended by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), including a historic preservation condition pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 54 U.S.C. § 306108 (Section 106 condition).

In a Supplemental Final Environmental Assessment (Supplemental Final EA) served on September 9, 2025, OEA states that, on July 31, 2025, OEA submitted materials to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) requesting concurrence with OEA's determination that there are no historic properties affected by the proposed abandonment. The Supplemental Final EA further states that, on September 4, 2025, OEA confirmed by email with the SHPO that the 30-day review period under 36 C.F.R. § 800.4(d)(1)(i) had expired and that the Board completed the Section 106 process for the proposed abandonment. As a result, OEA recommends that the Board remove the Section 106 condition.

Based on OEA's analysis and consistent with its recommendation, this proceeding will be reopened, and the previously imposed Section 106 condition will be removed.

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. This proceeding is reopened.

2. Upon reconsideration, the Section 106 condition is removed.

3. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Anika S. Cooper, Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel.