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LAW OFFICES OF
LOUIS E. GITOMER, LLC

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
September 8, 2026
Part of
Public Record

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Melanie@lgraillaw.com

600 BALTIMORE AVENUE, SUITE 301
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-4022
(410)296-2250
FAX (410) 332-0885

September 8, 2026

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Chief Counsel
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

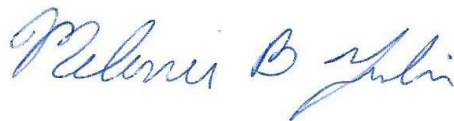
Re: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH**

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed for electronic filing is a Verified Notice of Exemption for CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the "Line"). The filing fee of \$5,300 has been paid via pay.gov.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Melanie B. Yasbin
Attorney for CSX Transportation, Inc.

Enclosure

FEE RECEIVED
September 8, 2026
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FILED
September 8, 2026
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.–ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION–
IN HAMILTON COUNTY, OH

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Steven C. Armbrust, Esq.
CSX Transportation, Inc.
500 Water Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 359-1229

Louis E. Gitomer, Esq.
Melanie B. Yasbin, Esq.
Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC
600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 296-2250
Lou@lgraillaw.com

Attorneys for: CSX TRANSPORTATION,
INC.

Dated: September 8, 2026

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.–ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION–
IN HAMILTON COUNTY, OH

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) files this Verified Notice of Exemption pursuant to the class exemption at 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 for CSXT to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). No local rail traffic has moved over the Line during the past two years. Any overhead traffic on the Line can be and has been rerouted.

Based on information in the possession of CSXT, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad’s possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

1. Proposed consummation date. The proposed consummation date is October 28, 2026.
2. Certification required by 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b). *See* Exhibit A.
3. Information required by 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(1) through (4), (7), and (8), and (e)(4).

(a) General.

- (1) Exact name of applicant. CSX Transportation, Inc.

(2) Whether applicant is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C.

Subtitle IV, Chapter 105. CSXT is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV, Chapter 105.

(3) Relief sought. CSXT seeks to use the class exemption at 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). There are no stations on the Line.

(4) Map. *See* Exhibit B.

(7) Name, title, and address of representative of applicant to whom correspondence should be sent. Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204, (410) 296-2250, Lou@lgraillaw.com.

(8) List of all United States Postal Service ZIP Codes that the line proposed for discontinuance traverses. The Line traverses U.S. Postal ZIP Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225.

(e) Rural and community impact.

(4) Statement of whether the properties proposed to be abandoned are appropriate for use for other public purposes, including roads and highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, or recreation. If the applicant is aware of any restriction on the title to the property, including any reversionary interest, which would affect the transfer of title or the use of property for other than rail purposes, this shall be disclosed.

CSXT believes that the property proposed for abandonment may be suitable for other purposes but may be subject to reversionary interests that may affect transfer of title for other than rail purposes.

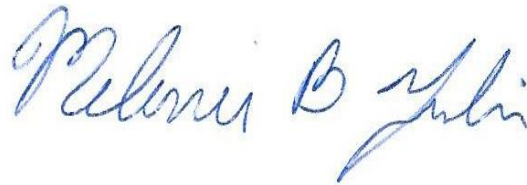
4. The level of labor protection. The interests of any railroad employees who may be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment will be adequately protected by the labor protective conditions in *Oregon Short Line R. Co. –Abandonment–Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

5. Certification. Certificates of compliance with the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.50(d)(1) and 1105.11 are attached as Exhibit C.

6. Environmental Report. See Exhibit D.

7. Historic Report. See Exhibit D.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven C. Armbrust, Esq.
CSX Transportation, Inc.
500 Water Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 359-1229

Louis E. Gitomer, Esq.
Melanie B. Yasbin, Esq.
Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer
600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 296-2250
Lou@lgrailaw.com

Attorneys for: CSX TRANSPORTATION,
INC.

Dated: September 8, 2026

EXHIBIT A-VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION

**VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION THAT RAIL LINE MEETS
CRITERIA OF 49 C.F.R. SECTION 1152.50(b)**

STATE OF FLORIDA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF DUVAL)

I, Trevor Knaus, state that I am Mgr Cost & Contribution
for CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT"); that I am authorized to make this verification; and that I
have read the foregoing Notice of Exemption and know the facts asserted therein are true and
accurate as stated, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I hereby certify that no local freight traffic has moved over CSXT's approximately 2.07-
mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest
Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH, for two
years prior to the date hereof and that any overhead traffic can be rerouted over other lines.
Further, no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or a State or local
government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line
either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been
decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period. The foregoing certification is
made on behalf of CSXT by the undersigned after due and careful investigation of the matters
herein certified and based on the best of the knowledge, information, and belief of the
undersigned.

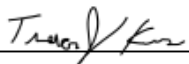
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EXHIBIT B-MAP

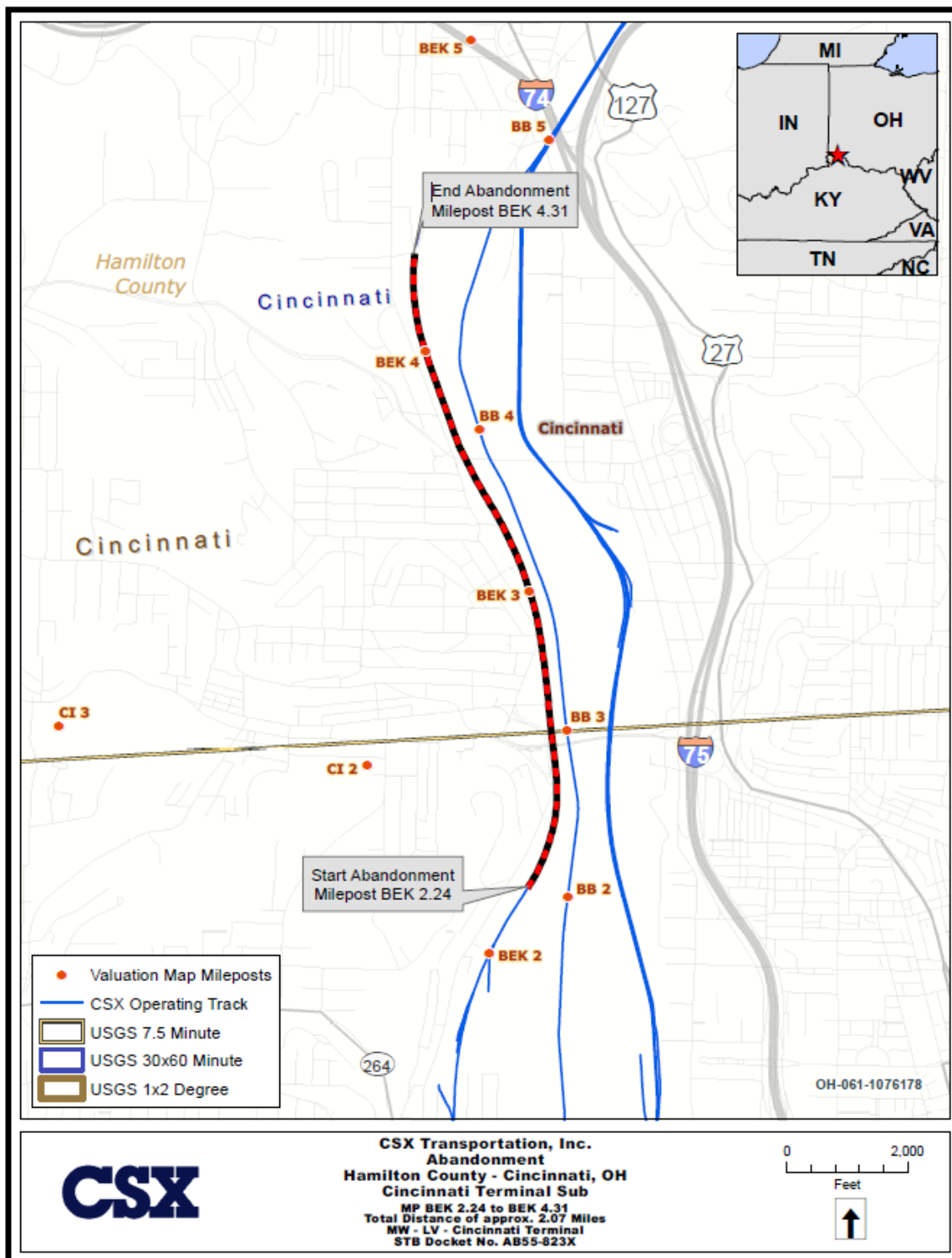


EXHIBIT C-CERTIFICATES OF SERVICE AND PUBLICATION

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (d) (1), the undersigned hereby certifies that notice of the proposed abandonment in Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X) was mailed via first class mail on August 27, 2026, to the following parties:

State Public Service Commission

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
contactthepuco@puco.ohio.gov

Military Traffic Management Command

Headquarters
Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command
ATTN: Transportation Engineering Agency (SDTE-SA)
1 Soldier Way Scott AFB, IL 62225-5006

usarmy.scott.sddc.mbx.tea-rnd@mail.mil

National Park Service

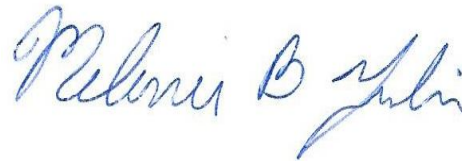
Mr. Bob Ratcliffe
Chief, Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Division
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program National Park Service
1849 C Street, N.W. (Org Code 2220)
Washington, DC 20240

National Park Service

U.S. Department of Interior
National Park Service
Land Resources Division
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

U.S. Department of Agriculture

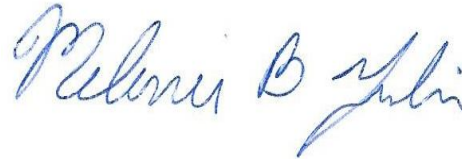
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Chief of the Forest Service
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250-0003



Melanie B. Yasbin
September 8, 2026

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that notice of the proposed abandonment in Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X) in the following form was advertised on September 4, 2026, in the Cincinnati Enquirer a newspaper of general circulation in Hamilton County, OH, as required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(c) and .12.



Melanie B. Yasbin
September 8, 2026

Notice of Intent to Abandon

CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) gives notice that on or about October 28, 2024, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment of 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225.

The Board’s Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the OEA, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at (202) 245-0295.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board’s Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings, 395 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001 [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicant’s representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board’s Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant’s representative: Louis E. Gitomer, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204, (410)296-2250, Lou@lgrailaw.com.

USA TODAY CO.



PO Box 630599 Cincinnati, OH 45263-0599

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

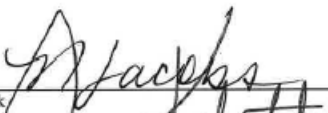
Melanie Yasbin
Melanie Yasbin
600 Baltimore Ave, Suite 301
Towson MD 21204

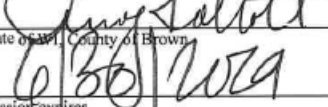
STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

The Enquirer, a newspaper printed in Cincinnati, Ohio and published in Cincinnati, in Hamilton County, Ohio, and of general circulation in said county, and as to the Kentucky Enquirer published in Ft. Mitchell, Kenton County, Kentucky, Who being duly sworn, deposes and saith that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in the said newspaper times, once in each issue dated as follows:

CIN cincinnati.com 09/04/2026
CIN Cincinnati-KY Enquirer 09/04/2026

and that the fees charged are legal.
Sworn to and subscribed before on 09/04/2026



Legal Clerk


Notary, State of WI, County of Brown


My commission expires

Publication Cost:	\$562.00	
Tax Amount:	\$0.00	
Payment Cost:	\$562.00	
Order No:	12600739	# of Copies:
Customer No:	1142489	1
PO #:	LW000587658	

THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE!

Please do not use this form for payment remittance.

AMY KOKOTT Notary Public State of Wisconsin



Notice of intent to Abandon

CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") gives notice that on or about October 28, 2024, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment of 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225.

The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the OEA, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at (202) 245-0295.

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September 4 2026
LW000587658

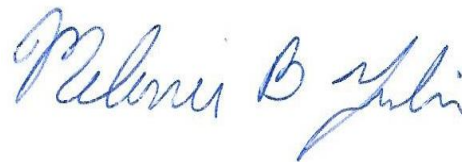
EXHIBIT D– COMBINED ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7, the undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the Combined Environmental and Historic Report in Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X) was mailed via first class mail and electronic mail where available on August 13, 2026, to the following parties:

John Williams Natural Resources Conservation Service 1802 Princeton Rd Hamilton, OH 45011-4701 john.williams.2@usda.gov	National Park Service Midwest Region 601 Riverfront Drive Omaha, NE MWR_RTCA@nps.gov
Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 77 West Jackson Blvd Chicago, IL 60604 r5hotline@epa.gov	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services 4625 Morse Road, Suite 104 Columbus, OH 43230-8355 ohioFO@fws.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District 600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place Louisville, KY 40202 lr1@usace.army.mil	National Geodetic Survey RRAE@noaa.gov

Marie Barnett Ohio Environmental Protection Agency 50 W. Town St. Suite 700 Columbus, OH 43215 marie.barnett@epa.ohio.gov	Cincinnati City Council 801 Plum St. Cincinnati, OH 45202 clerkofcouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov
Ohio Department of Natural Resources wildinfo@dnr.ohio.gov	Mayor Aftab Pureval 801 Plum St. Suite 150 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov
Commissioner Stephanie Summerow Dumas President of the Board Hamilton County Council 138 East Court Street Room 603 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Stephanie.SummerowDumas@hamiltoncountyohio.gov	

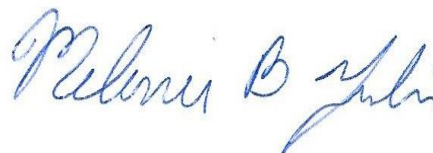


Melanie B. Yasbin
September 8, 2026

HISTORIC REPORT CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(c), the undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the Combined Environmental and Historic Report in Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X) was submitted via electronic mail on August 13, 2026, to the following parties:

Ohio History Connection
800 E. 17th Ave
Columbus, OH 43211
section106@ohiohistory.org

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Melanie B. Yasbin".

Melanie B. Yasbin
September 8, 2026

COMBINED ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC REPORT (“CEHR”)
(49 C.F.R. 1105.7 and 1105.8)

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.–ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION–
IN HAMILTON COUNTY, OH

Dated: September 8, 2026

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

(1) Proposed Action and Alternatives. Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rail line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable, detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon the approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225.

Abandonment of the Line will result in the removal of the remaining rail and crossties, and possibly the upper layer of ballast. CSXT does not intend to disturb any sub grade or sub grade structures. Any trail related structures, such as bridges, trestles, culverts, and tunnels will not be salvaged.

The only alternative to a full abandonment would be for CSXT not to abandon the Line.

A map of the proposed abandonment is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

(2) Transportation System. Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns. Estimate the amount of traffic (passenger or freight) that will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed action.

There is no passenger traffic on the Line to be diverted to other modes as a result of the proposed abandonment. There is no freight traffic on the Line to be diverted to motor carrier.

The proposed abandonment should have no adverse effects on regional or local highway systems and traffic patterns.

(3) Land Use. (i) Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies. (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land. (iii) If the action affects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by 1105.9. (iv) If the proposed action is an abandonment, state whether or not the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 and explain why.

(i) CSXT considers the proposed abandonment of the Line to be consistent with existing land use plans. A copy of the Preliminary CEHR has also been mailed to the appropriate local and state agencies for their information and further comment. No comments have been received to date.

(ii) CSXT does not believe that there is any prime agricultural land that will be affected. CSXT notified the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) Natural Resources Conservation Service (the agency succeeding to the responsibilities of the Soil Conservation Service) of the proposed abandonment by letter dated August 13, 2026 (*See Exhibit 2*) requesting comments and included a copy of the Preliminary CEHR. USDA concurs with the belief that no prime agricultural land will be affected. (*See Exhibit 2*)

(iii) The proposed project is not located within the State of Ohio’s Coastal Zone Management Program; therefore, consistency with the States Coastal Zone Management Program is not required.

(iv) CSXT believes the Line would be suitable for interim trail use/rail banking.

(4) Energy. (i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources. (ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities. (iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why. (iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than: (A) 1,000 rail carloads a year; or (B) an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year

for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given.

(i) The proposed abandonment will have no effect on the ability to transport energy resources.

(ii) The proposed abandonment will have no effect on the transportation of recyclable commodities.

(iii) The proposed abandonment will not change the use of railroad transportation over the line as CSX doesn't currently ship over the line.

(iv) The proposed abandonment will not cause the diversion of more than 1,000 rail carloads a year; or an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the line segments of rail traffic to motor carriage.

(5) Air. (i) If the proposed action will result in either: (A) An increase in rail traffic of at least 100 percent (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least eight trains a day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposal, or (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100 percent (measured by carload activity), or (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment, quantify the anticipated effect on air emissions. For a proposal under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or § 10505) to construct a new line or reinstitute service over a previously abandoned line, only the eight train a day provision in sub-section (5)(i)(A) will apply. (ii) If the proposed action affects a class I or nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act, and will result in either: (A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 50 percent (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least three trains a day on any segment of rail line; (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 20 percent (measured by carload activity); or (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on a given road segment, then state whether any expected increased emissions are within the parameters established by the State Implementation Plan. However, for a rail construction under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or 49 U.S.C. § 10505), or a case involving the reinstitution of service over a previously abandoned line, only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply. (iii) If transportation of ozone depleting materials (such as nitrogen oxide and freon) is contemplated, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and spills; contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of ozone depleting materials in the event of a collision or derailment.

(i) The proposed abandonment will not result in meeting or exceeding the specified thresholds.

(ii) The proposed abandonment will not result in meeting or exceeding the specified thresholds.

(iii) The proposed abandonment will not affect the transportation of ozone depleting materials.

(6) Noise. If any of the thresholds identified in item (5)(i) of this section are surpassed, state whether the proposed action will cause: (i) an incremental increase in noise levels of three decibels Ldn or more; or (ii) an increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area, and quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed.

Not applicable.

(7) Safety. (i) Describe any effects of the proposed action on public health and safety (including vehicle delay time at railroad grade crossings). (ii) If hazardous materials are expected to be transported, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; whether chemicals are being transported that, if mixed, could react to form more hazardous compounds; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and hazardous spills; the contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials. (iii) If there are any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved.

(i) The proposed abandonment will have no detrimental effects on public health and safety. There are eight road crossings, two public road crossings, four private road crossings and two pedestrian pathways on the Line. All crossings are closed.

(ii) The proposed abandonment will not affect the transportation of hazardous materials.

(iii) CSXT is not aware of any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the Line.

(8) Biological Resources. (i) Based on consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened

species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects. (ii) State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

(i) CSXT does not believe that the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat. CSXT has notified the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (“USF&W”) of the proposed abandonment by letter dated August 13, 2026 (See Exhibit 2) requesting assistance in determining whether the proposed abandonment will adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat and included a copy of the Preliminary CEHR.

Through use of the USF&W website <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/> a letter listing threatened, and endangered species was generated on August 10, 2026, finding the Indiana Bat, Tricolored Bat, Salamander mussel, and Monarch Butterfly may be in the area but that there are no critical habitats within the project area under USF&W’s jurisdiction. A technical assistance letter generated on August 10, 2026, states that “due to the project, type, size, and location, the Service does not have any concerns regarding federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat.” (See Exhibit 2).

(ii) CSXT does not believe any wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests would be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment.

CSXT has notified the National Parks Service of the proposed abandonment by letter dated August 13, 2026 (See Exhibit 2) requesting assistance in identifying any potential effects on wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests and included a copy of the Preliminary CEHR. No comments have been received to date.

(9) Water. (i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies. (ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required

for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects. (iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action.

(i) CSXT is confident that the proposed abandonment will be consistent with applicable water quality standards. CSXT notified the State Environmental Protection Agency (“SEPA”), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“USEPA”) by letters dated August 13, 2026 (*See* Exhibit 2) requesting assistance in identifying any potential effects on water quality standards and included a copy of the Preliminary CEHR. No comments have been received to date.

(ii) CSXT believes that no permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act are required for the proposed abandonment and that no designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected by the proposed abandonment. Upon receiving abandonment authority, removal of material will be accomplished by use of the right-of-way for access. No new access roads are contemplated. CSXT does not intend to disturb any of the underlying roadbed or perform any activities that would cause sedimentation or erosion of the soil and does not anticipate any dredging or use of fill in the removal of the track material. CSXT will transport crossties and/or other debris away from the Line and will not discard them along the right-of-way or place or leave them in streams or wetlands, or along the banks of such waterways. Also, during track removal, appropriate measures will be implemented to prevent or control spills from fuels, lubricants or any other pollutant materials from entering any waterways. Based upon this course of action, CSXT does not believe a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will be required.

CSXT notified the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by letter dated August 13, 2026 (*See* Exhibit 2) requesting assistance in identifying whether permits under section 404 of the Clean

Water Act are required for the proposed abandonment and that no designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected by the proposed abandonment and included a copy of the Preliminary CEHR. No comments have been received to date.

(iii) CSXT believes that no permit under section 402 of the Clean Water Act would be required for the abandonment. CSXT notified the SEPA and the USEPA by letter dated August 13, 2026 (*See Exhibit 2*) requesting assistance in identifying whether permit under section 402 of the Clean Water Act would be required for the abandonment and included a copy of the Preliminary CEHR. No comments have been received to date.

(10) Proposed Mitigation. Describe any actions that are proposed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, indicating why the proposed mitigation is appropriate.

CSXT does not expect any adverse environmental impact from the proposed abandonment and, therefore, sees no need for any mitigating actions. CSXT will, of course, adhere to any remedial actions required by the Board.

HISTORIC REPORT

1. A U.S.G.S. topographic map (or alternate map drawn to scale and sufficiently detailed to show buildings and other structures in the vicinity of the proposed action) showing the location of the proposed action, and the locations and approximate dimensions of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older and are part of the proposed action;

U.S. Geological Survey Maps have been supplied to the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (*See* Exhibit 3) along with this preliminary CEHR.

2. A written description of the right of way (including approximate widths, to the extent known), and the topography and urban and/or rural characteristics of the surrounding area;

The Line runs on the west side of Mill Creek, runs parallel to State Avenue and Beekman Street, and extends north to Fricke Road. The portion of the property north of Fricke Road, currently owned by Johnson Doppler Lumber Company, was formally abandoned in 1993 under ICC filing AB-55-440.

3. Good quality photographs (actual photographic prints, not photocopies) of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area;

There are no CSXT owned bridges that are 50 years old or older, which may be eligible for listing in the National Register, which is part of the proposed action. *See* Exhibit 4.

4. The date(s) of construction of the structure(s), and the date(s) and extent of any major alterations, to the extent such information is known;

Not applicable.

5. A brief narrative history of carrier operations in the area, and an explanation of what, if any, changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action;

The Line is part of the former Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (“B&O”) industrial line in Cincinnati, OH. It was built to serve lumber, warehousing, and other industrial customers from

Queensgate Yard. The portion of the former B&O line north of Fricke Road, was formally abandoned in 1993. Over the last decade, the Line has experienced a gradual decline in rail-served customers and freight activity and there has been no freight activity on the Line in over two years. The B&O line has been part of the CSXT network since 1987.

7. An opinion (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) as to whether the site and/or structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (36 C.F.R. 60.4), and whether there is a likelihood of archeological resources or any other previously unknown historic properties in the project area, and the basis for these opinions (including any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office, local historical societies or universities);

It is CSXT's opinion that there are no archeological resources or other railroad related historic properties in the project area.

8. A description (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) of any known prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, environmental conditions (naturally occurring or manmade) that might affect the archeological recovery of resources (such as swampy conditions or the presence of toxic waste), and the surrounding terrain.

Based on a review of its records, CSXT believes that there are no known subsurface ground disturbances or fill, or environmental conditions that might affect the archeological recovery of any potential resources. The Line was disturbed during construction by cuts and fill and any archeological resources that may have been located in the proposed project area would have been affected at that time versus during the proposed salvage operations associated with rail removal.

9. Within 30 days of receipt of the historic report, the State Historic Preservation Officer may request the following additional information regarding specific non railroad owned properties or groups of properties immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way: photographs of specified properties that can be readily seen from the railroad right-of-way (or other public rights-of-way adjacent to the property) and a written description of any previously discovered archeological sites, identifying the location and type of the site (*i.e.* prehistoric or native American).

CSXT does not foresee the likelihood that any additional information will need to be supplied in association with the proposed abandonment other than that information previously submitted. But, if any additional information is requested, CSXT will promptly supply the necessary information.

CSXT notified Ohio History Connection on August 13, 2026 (*See Exhibit 2*) requesting assistance to determine whether there are any archeological resources or any other previously unknown historic properties and included a copy of the Preliminary By letter dated August 28, 2026, Ohio History Connection, states that it “concurs that the proposed project will have on no adverse effect on historic properties.” *See Exhibit 2.*

EXHIBIT 1 – MAP

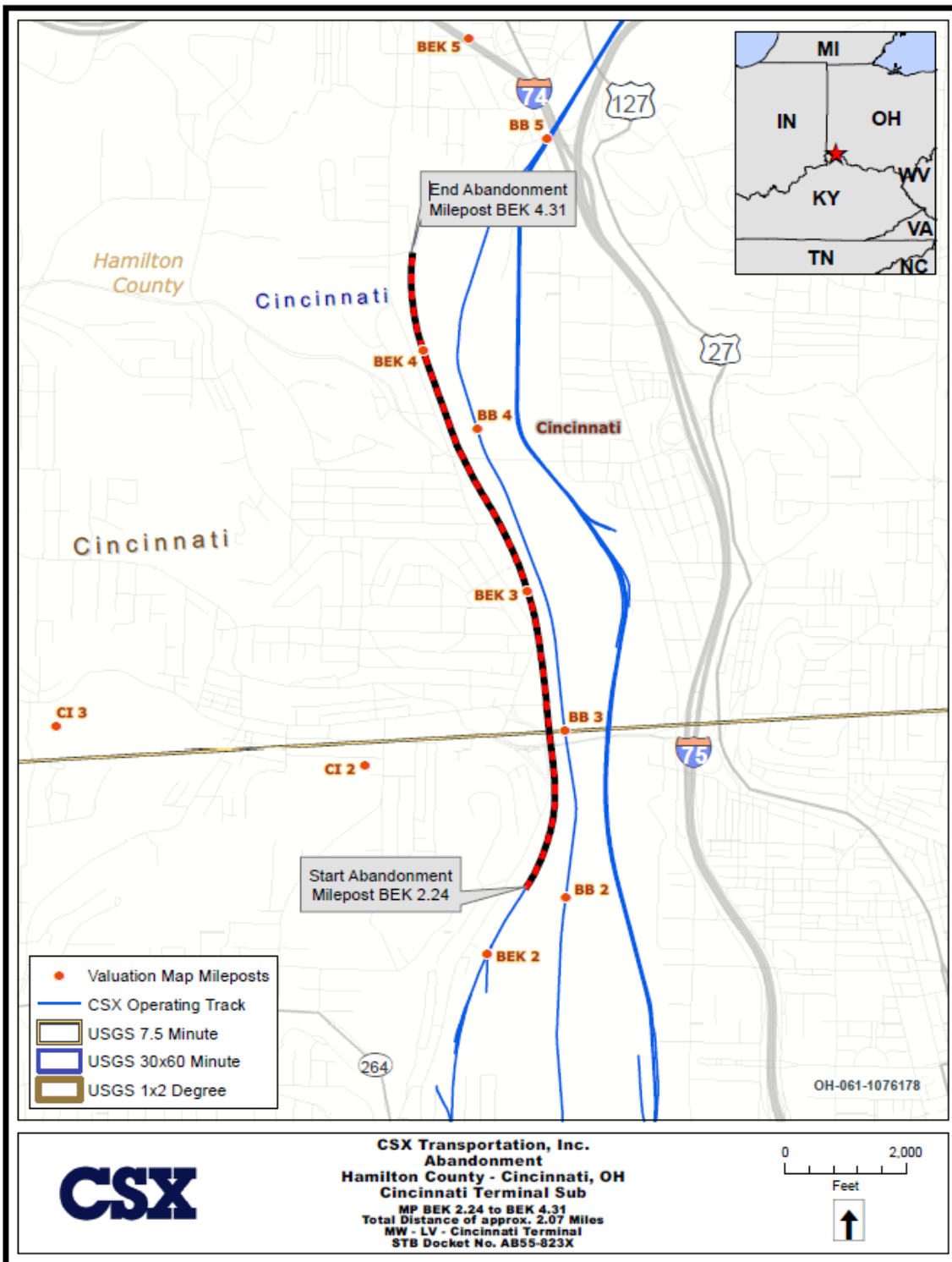


EXHIBIT 2 – LETTERS (WITHOUT MAPS)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

Cincinnati City Council
801 Plum St.
Cincinnati, OH 45202
clerkofcouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board environmental and historic review under 49 C.F.R. 1105.6(b)(2). A portion of CSXT’s Combined Environmental and Historic Report (CEHR) must be:

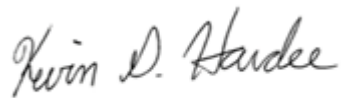
“Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, please state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Please describe any inconsistencies.”

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Enclosed is CSXT’s Preliminary CEHR with CSXT’s analysis of current

and future land use. Please respond by email to Kevin_Hardee@csx.com or by mail to the above address, within 20 days of the date of this letter so that CSXT can include and analyze your comments in its Final CEHR.

Also enclosed is the distribution list of all parties who have been requested to comment on the CEHR. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

Mayor Aftab Pureval
801 Plum St. Suite 150
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Mayor.aftab@cincinnati-oh.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

Dear Mayor Pureval:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board environmental and historic review under 49 C.F.R. 1105.6(b)(2). A portion of CSXT’s Combined Environmental and Historic Report (CEHR) must be:

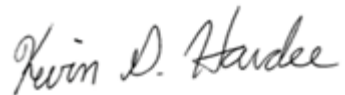
“Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, please state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Please describe any inconsistencies.”

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Enclosed is CSXT’s Preliminary CEHR with CSXT’s analysis of current and future land use. Please respond by email to Kevin_Hardee@csx.com or by mail to the above

address, within 20 days of the date of this letter so that CSXT can include and analyze your comments in its Final CEHR.

Also enclosed is the distribution list of all parties who have been requested to comment on the CEHR. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

Commissioner Stephanie Summerow Dumas
President of the Board
Hamilton County Council
138 East Court Street
Room 603
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Stephanie.SummerowDumas@hamiltoncountyohio.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

Dear Commissioner Summerow Dumas:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

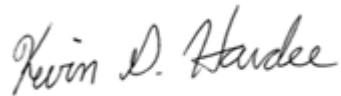
This action requires Board environmental and historic review under 49 C.F.R. 1105.6(b)(2). A portion of CSXT’s Combined Environmental and Historic Report (CEHR) must be:

“Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, please state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Please describe any inconsistencies.”

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Enclosed is CSXT's Preliminary CEHR with CSXT's analysis of current and future land use. Please respond by email to Kevin_Hardee@csx.com or by mail to the above address, within 20 days of the date of this letter so that CSXT can include and analyze your comments in its Final CEHR.

Also enclosed is the distribution list of all parties who have been requested to comment on the CEHR. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
wildinfo@dnr.ohio.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7 (e)(9) (i) and (iii) require that CSXT develop a response to the following statements:

(i) *“Based on consultation with State Water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.”*

(iii) *“State whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act 33 U.S.C. 1342 are required for the proposed action.”*

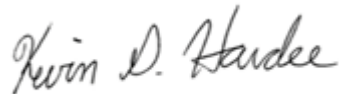
There are no refueling or maintenance areas within the project area. The removal of CSXT’s rail material will be accomplished by use of the right of way for access, along with

existing public and private crossings, and no new access roads are contemplated. CSXT does not intend to disturb any of the underlying roadbeds and do not anticipate any dredging or use of fill in the removal of the track material. The crossties and/or other debris will be transported away from the rail line and will not be discarded along the right of way, nor be placed or left in streams or wetlands, or along the banks of such waterways. During track removal, appropriate measures will be implemented to prevent or control spills from fuels, lubricants or any other pollutant materials from entering any watercourses.

Based upon the above described actions, CSXT would appreciate receiving your concurrence with its position that the proposed project is consistent with applicable Federal, State and local water quality standards, and that no permits under Section 402 are required at this time. As further information, CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd
Chicago, IL 60604
r5hotline@epa.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7 (e)(9) (i) and (iii) require that CSXT develop a response to the following statements:

(i) *“Based on consultation with State Water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.”*

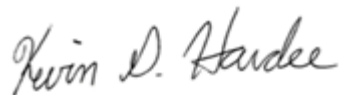
(iii) *“State whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act 33 U.S.C. 1342 are required for the proposed action.”*

There are no refueling or maintenance areas within the project area. The removal of CSXT's rail material will be accomplished by use of the right of way for access, along with existing public and private crossings, and no new access roads are contemplated. CSXT does not intend to disturb any of the underlying roadbeds and do not anticipate any dredging or use of fill in the removal of the track material. The crossties and/or other debris will be transported away from the rail line and will not be discarded along the right of way, nor be placed or left in streams or wetlands, or along the banks of such waterways. During track removal, appropriate measures will be implemented to prevent or control spills from fuels, lubricants or any other pollutant materials from entering any watercourses.

Based upon the above described actions, CSXT would appreciate receiving your concurrence with its position that the proposed project is consistent with applicable Federal, State and local water quality standards, and that no permits under Section 402 are required at this time. As further information, CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

Marie Barnett
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
50 W. Town St. Suite 700
Columbus, OH 43215
marie.barnett@epa.ohio.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

Dear Ms. Barnett:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7 (e)(9) (i) and (iii) require that CSXT develop a response to the following statements:

(i) *“Based on consultation with State Water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.”*

(iii) *“State whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act 33 U.S.C. 1342 are required for the proposed action.”*

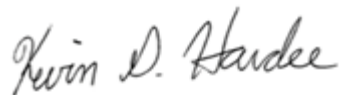
There are no refueling or maintenance areas within the project area. The removal of CSXT's rail material will be accomplished by use of the right of way for access, along with existing public and private crossings, and no new access roads are contemplated. CSXT does not intend to disturb any of the underlying roadbeds and do not anticipate any dredging or use of fill in the removal of the track material. The cross-ties and/or other debris will be transported away from the rail line and will not be discarded along the right of way, nor be placed or left in streams or wetlands, or along the banks of such waterways. During track removal, appropriate measures will be implemented to prevent or control spills from fuels, lubricants or any other pollutant materials from entering any watercourses.

Based upon the above described actions, CSXT would appreciate your concurrence in its position that there would be no adverse impact to any federally-listed endangered or threatened species, critical habitats, wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks, or forests.

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Kevin D. Hardee". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, OH 43230-8355
ohioFO@fws.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

The action requires Surface Transportation Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7 (8) (i) and (ii) requires that CSXT develop responses to the following statements:

(i) *Based on consultation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects.*

(ii) *State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.*

Based upon the above described actions, CSXT would appreciate your concurrence in its position that there would be no adverse impact to any federally-listed endangered or threatened species, critical habitats, wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks, or forests.

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104

Columbus, OH 43230-8355

Phone: (614) 416-8993 Fax: (614) 416-8994



In Reply Refer To:

08/10/2026 16:14:46 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0129675

Project Name: CSXT Abandonment Exemption in Hamilton County, OH

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Requests for additional technical assistance or consultation from the Ohio Field Office should be submitted following guidance on the following page <https://www.fws.gov/office/ohio-ecological-services/request-project-review>. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, OH 43230-8355
(614) 416-8993

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0129675

Project Name: CSXT Abandonment Exemption in Hamilton County, OH

Project Type: Abandonment of Rail Line

Project Description: CSX Transportation, Inc., ("CSXT") proposes to abandon the approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the "Line"). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.13175315,-84.54441842293187,14z>



Counties: Hamilton County, Ohio

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Indiana bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Salamander mussel <i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208	Proposed Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: The Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC

Name: Melanie Yasbin

Address: 600 Baltimore Ave, Suite 301

City: Towson

State: MD

Zip: 21204

Email: melanie@lgraillaw.com

Phone: 4102962205



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104

Columbus, OH 43230-8355

Phone: (614) 416-8993 Fax: (614) 416-8994



In Reply Refer To:

08/10/2026 16:17:59 UTC

Project code: 2026-0129675

Project Name: CSXT Abandonment Exemption in Hamilton County, OH

Subject: Technical Assistance letter for the project named 'CSXT Abandonment Exemption in Hamilton County, OH' for specified threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location consistent with the All Ohio Determination Key (DKey)

Thank you for using the assisted determination keys in IPaC. This letter is provided pursuant to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service's) authority under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA). On August 10, 2026, Melanie Yasbin used the All Ohio Bat DKey; dated February 09, 2026, in the Service's online IPaC application to evaluate potential impacts to federally listed bat species, from a project named 'CSXT Abandonment Exemption in Hamilton County, OH'.

Due to the project, type, size, and location, the Service does not have any concerns regarding federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat. If there are any project modifications during the term of this action, or additional information for listed or proposed species or their critical habitat becomes available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, please contact us for additional project review.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

CSXT Abandonment Exemption in Hamilton County, OH

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'CSXT Abandonment Exemption in Hamilton County, OH':

CSX Transportation, Inc., ("CSXT") proposes to abandon the approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the "Line"). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.13175315,-84.54441842293187,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Does the project involve removal, modification, or maintenance of a human-made building-like structure (barn, house, or other building) known or suspected to contain roosting bats?
No
2. Does the project involve **building, maintaining or repairing** a communications tower?
No
3. Is this an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) project with an assigned ODOT PID?
No
4. Does the project fall under the "FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Consultation for Transportation Project affecting IBAT, NLEB, or TCB"?
No
5. Does the project involve the modification, replacement or removal of an existing bridge or culvert?
No
6. Does the project involve purposeful take of listed bats (including for scientific purposes, or to enhance the survival of a species)?
No
7. Will the project involve blasting?
No
8. Does the project involve the installation or operation of wind turbines and/or solar panels?
No
9. Does the project involve aerial or other large-scale application of any chemical (including insecticide, herbicide, biopesticide, etc.)?
No
10. Is this project part of a larger phased project?
No
11. Does the project involve prescribed fire?
No
12. Does the Project Area contain any known or potential hibernacula (natural caves, mines, rocky outcroppings, tunnels, or underground quarries)?
No
13. Does the project involve clearing or trimming trees $\geq 5"$ dbh?
No

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: The Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC

Name: Melanie Yasbin

Address: 600 Baltimore Ave, Suite 301

City: Towson

State: MD

Zip: 21204

Email: melanie@lgraillaw.com

Phone: 4102962205

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Surface Transportation Board



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

National Geodetic Survey
RRAE@noaa.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

Please advise if there are any geodetic markers which could be affected by the proposed transaction. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Louisville District
600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place
Louisville, KY 40202
lr1@usace.army.mil

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7(e)(9) (ii) require that CSXT develop responses to the following statement:

“Based on consultation with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100 year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.”

Based upon the above described actions, CSXT would appreciate your concurrence in its position that there would be no adverse impact on wetlands or 100-year flood plains, and that no permits under Section 404 will be required.

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Kevin D. Hardee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and 'H'.

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

Ohio History Connection
800 E. 17th Ave
Columbus, OH 43211
section106@ohiohistory.org

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

In connection with rail line that is the subject of an application for authority to abandon, Federal Regulations at 49 CFR 1105.8(d), require that a Historic Report be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer prior to filing with the Surface Transportation Board. In accordance with those Regulations, I am attaching a preliminary Combined Environmental and Historic Report (“CEHR”) covering the above-proposed abandonment.

We would appreciate receiving a letter from your office confirming that this project will have no impact upon cultural resources. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed is a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the CEHR for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



In reply, please refer to:
2026-HAM-69150

August 28, 2026

Melanie Yasbin
The Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC
600 Baltimore Ave, Suite 301
Towson, MD 21204

RE: CSX Transportation, INC. – Abandonment Exemption | Hamilton County, OH | Combined
Environmental and Historic Report
Hamilton County, Ohio

Dear Ms. Yasbin:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received on August 13, 2026. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The following comments pertain to the Combined Environmental and Historic Report (CEHR) for the CSX Transportation, INC. – Abandonment Exemption project. The project includes the abandonment of n the approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH. You have requested the comments of the SHPO on the effects of the proposed project on historic properties.

There are no historic properties located within the APE. Based on the information provided, the proposed abandonment should not impact the significance or integrity of any historic properties in a way that would alter their National Register status or eligibility. Therefore, the SHPO concurs that the proposed project will have no adverse effect on historic properties. No further coordination with this office is necessary unless the project changes.

If you have any questions, please contact me at ncorn@ohiohistory.org or (614) 298-2049. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Corn".

Nicole Corn, Project Reviews Manager for
Resource Protection and Review
State Historic Preservation Office

RPR Serial No: 1115248

800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43211-2474 • 614.297.2300 • ohiohistory.org



PROJECT SUMMARY FORM OHIO's STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Section 106 Review and Ohio Revised Code 149.53

This is a two-tiered form. Sections 1 to 3 must be completed by everyone submitting a Project Summary Form (PSF) to the Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Sections 4 to 6 are reserved for agencies, consultants, or applicants that have defined an Area of Potential Effects, identified consulting parties and historic properties, and have made a determination of effect.

DO NOT USE THIS FORM for projects requiring a license from the **Federal Communications Commission**. Please submit the FCC Forms 620 or 621.

All fields that are applicable must be completed to prevent delays in the review process. Please note that SHPO will not accept a PSF without a federal or state agency contact provided.

Questions can be directed to section106@ohiohistory.org.

SECTION 1: PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

A. Applicant Contact Information:

- a. Name Kevin Hardee
- b. Agency/Company CSX Transportation, Inc.
- c. Mailing Address 500 Water Street, J801, Jacksonville, FL 32202
- d. Phone Number (904) 366-4457
- e. Email Address Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

B. Project Name and Basic Information

- a. Project Name CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X)
- b. Is this a new project submittal to SHPO? **YES** or NO
If NO, please provide the SHPO Reference Number from previous submission.

- c. Reference number used by Federal/State Agency to identify this project.
- C. Project Address or vicinity The railroad line runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on CSXT's Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the "Line"). The Line is on the west side of Mill Creek, and running north runs parallel to State Avenue and Beekman Street, ending Fricke Road.
- D. City/Township Cincinnati
- E. County Hamilton
- F. Is this a submission for Section 106? If **YES**, complete G & H. If NO, complete I, J, & K.
- G. Federal Agency/Agency Name and Contact Information. (HUD Entitlement Communities acting under delegated environmental review authority should list their own contact information).
- H. Type of Federal Assistance. List all known sources of federal funding, and permits. Surface Transportation licensing authority to abandon the Line.
- I. Is this submission for Ohio Revised Code 149.53?
- J. State Agency and Contact Person and Contact Information
- K. Type of State Assistance

SECTION 2: PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

- A. Provide a detailed description of the proposed work associated with the project.
CSX Transportation, Inc., ("CSXT") proposes to abandon the approximately 2.07-mile rail line that runs between milepost BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH.
- B. If the project involves ground-disturbing construction activities, provide a description of the construction activity and the horizontal and vertical dimensions of the expected ground disturbance.
 - a. Provide photographs of the area expected to have ground disturbance.
 - b. Provide a narrative description of current land use and conditions.
 - c. If known, please provide a description of previous land use and past ground disturbance activities. Include historic aerials and maps if useful.
- C. Provide a map depicting the location of the project; road names must be identified and legible. The use of Google maps is acceptable but any legible aerial, topographic, or county map will work. Please outline the work limits of your project or if it is a single house, a dot on the house will suffice. See attached Combined Environmental and Historic Report
- D. Current color photographs of all buildings or structures that are directly or indirectly affected by the project. Include an approximate age of the buildings/structures. Not applicable

SECTION 3: ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTATION

If available, provide any additional information such as plan or schematic sheets, renderings of the proposed building/structure/development, and/or agency correspondences. If a Phase I archaeology or reconnaissance level history architecture survey was completed, please provide the report.

Email the completed PSF form and supporting documentation to our office via section106@ohiohistory.org. Submission of the form does not constitute completion of the consultation process. Once the SHPO has received the information they will provide within 30 days one of the following recommendations in writing:

- A finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* [36 CFR § 800.4(d) (1)].
- A request for additional information or clarification.
- A request for a Phase I archaeology and/or reconnaissance level history architecture survey if not previously provided.
- A finding of *No Adverse Effect* on historic properties [36 CFR § 800.5(b)].
- A finding of *Adverse Effect* on historic properties [36 CFR § 800.5(d) (2)].

Note that the file size is limited to 20 MB. If your file sizes are larger, SHPO will be unable to receive your submission. To check your submission was received and logged in for our review, please visit <https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserving-ohio/federal-state-reviews/project-status-check-for-106/>

PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR PSF

If you are an agency or consultant working on behalf of an agency continue to
SECTION 4: AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

SECTION 4: AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) means the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking [36 CFR Part 800.16(d)].

- A. Provide an aerial map depicting the undertaking's APE.
- B. Provide a description of the horizontal and vertical extent of the APE that accounts for direct and indirect effects. Explain the steps taken to identify the APE, and your justification for the boundaries chosen.

SECTION 5: IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Describe the cultural resources and properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places located within your APE and how they were identified. Identification efforts must be carried out by a qualified individual or individuals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards and have demonstrated familiarity with the range of historic properties that may be encountered, and their characteristics.

- A. Include a SHPO GIS map depicting known resources within the APE.
- B. Provide a clear description of the steps taken to determine the presence or absence of historic properties within the APE.
- C. Provide a description of how you consulted with others (including American Indian Tribes) who may have knowledge of historic properties in the APE. Please provide any written responses that you may have received from the public and consulting parties.
- D. If applicable, include a pdf copy of your Phase I archaeology and/or reconnaissance level history architecture reports.
 - a. Provide shapefiles for the area surveyed for archaeological and architectural properties.
 - b. Ensure that all Ohio Archaeological and Historic Inventory forms are completed and entered into Survey 123.

SECTION 6: DETERMINATION OF EFFECT

If you believe that you have gathered enough information to conclude the Section 106 process, you may be ready to make a determination of effect and ask the SHPO for concurrence. Please select one of the following determinations, then explain the basis for your decision:

- No Historic Properties Affected [36 CFR § 800.4(d) (1)].
- No Adverse Effect [36 CFR § 800.5(b)] on historic properties.
- Adverse Effect [36 CFR § 800.5(d) (2)] on historic properties. You may also include an explanation of how these adverse effects might be avoided, reduced, or mitigated.

Please email the completed form and supporting documentation to our office via section106@ohiohistory.org. Submission of the form does not constitute completion of the consultation process. Once the SHPO has received the information they will provide within 30 days one of the following recommendations in writing:

- Agree with your determination of effect
- Suggest a different determination of effect
- Request additional information or clarification.
- Require additional information gathering efforts such as a Phase II archaeology or history architecture evaluation.

Note that the file size is limited to 20 MB. If your file sizes are larger, SHPO will be unable to receive your submission. To check your submission was received and logged in for our review, please visit <https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserving-ohio/federal-state-reviews/project-status-check-for-106/>.



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

National Park Service
Midwest Region
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE
MWR_RTCA@nps.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

To Whom It May Concern:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225.

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7(c) require that advance notice be given to afford your agency a reasonable opportunity to provide meaningful input.

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)



500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 366-4457
Email: Kevin_Hardee@csx.com

Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities

August 13, 2026

John Williams
Natural Resources Conservation Service
1802 Princeton Rd
Hamilton, OH 45011-4701
john.williams.2@usda.gov

Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Hamilton County, OH

Dear Mr. Williams:

CSX Transportation, Inc., (“CSXT”) proposes to abandon an approximately 2.07-mile line between BEK 2.24 and milepost BEK 4.31, on its Midwest Region, Cincinnati Terminal-Industrial Track Subdivision, in Hamilton County, OH (the “Line”). The Line runs through the U.S. Postal Zip Codes 45204, 45214, 45223, 45225

Upon receipt of abandonment authority from the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”), CSXT will consummate the abandonment and abandon the Line.

This action requires Board approval and Federal Regulations 49 C.F.R. 1105.7(3) (ii) require that CSXT develop a response to the following statement:

“Based on consultation with the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.”

Please advise if any of the land contiguous to CSXT’s line in the project area is classified as prime agriculture land.

CSXT would appreciate your comments regarding current and future land use in relationship to the Line. Any questions can be sent electronically to Kevin_Hardee@CSX.com by email or through the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Enclosed are a distribution list of all parties that have been copied on the proposed action, a map of the proposed location and the preliminary Combined Environmental and Historical Report for the line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin D. Hardee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Kevin Hardee
Enclosures (3)

RE: [External Email]CSX Transportation Inc.--Abandonment Exemption--in Hamilton County, OH STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 823X)

Summarize



Williams, John - FPAC-NRCS, OH <john.williams.2@usda.gov>
To: Melanie Yasbin

☺ Reply Reply All → Forward 📎 ...
Thu 8/13/2026 9:25 AM

Start your reply all with: [Thank you for your confirmation.](#) [Thank you!](#) [Thank you for your response.](#) [Feedback](#)

Good morning,

Based off what I could see from the map provided, I feel that the abandonment project of the rail line will not have any negative detriment to any agricultural land or prime farmland in this area. I concur with this abandonment project. Thank you for informing me of this project.

John O. Williams, III
District Conservationist

USDA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service
1802 Princeton Rd.
Hamilton, OH. 45011
Office# 513-887-3720

EXHIBIT 3 – USGS MAPS

