

LAW OFFICES OF
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September 15, 2026

Ms. Danielle Gosselin
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

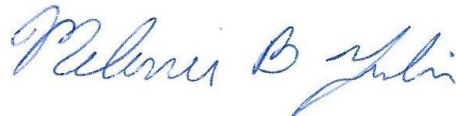
Re: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 827X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Anne Arundel County, MD**

Dear Ms. Gosselin:

Enclosed please find the Recommendation Letter dated September 14, 2026, from the Maryland State Clearinghouse regarding the above proposed abandonment (“Recommendation Letter”). The Recommendation Letter notes that the Maryland Historical Trust has determined that no historic properties will be affected. The letter also states that the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) and Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”) found the proposed abandonment to be consistent with their plans but included qualifying comments, which are also enclosed. The Recommendation Letter states that the proposed abandonment is within a Special Species Project Review Area, indicating that state listed rare, threatened, and endangered species are present and that coordination with DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service should occur for future activities to ensure that impacts to state listed rare, threatened, and endangered species are avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible.

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

Sincerely yours,



Melanie B. Yasbin
Attorney for CSX Transportation, Inc.

Enclosures

Wes Moore
Governor
Aruna Miller
Lt. Governor



Rebecca L. Flora
A/C, LEED NO. / BD+C
Secretary
Kristin R. Fleckenstein
Deputy Secretary

September 14, 2026

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

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE RECOMMENDATION

State Application Identifier: MD20260806-0508
Applicant: The Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC and CSX
Project Description: CSX Transportation, Inc., ("CSXT") Proposes to Abandon Approximately 0.72-mile Rail Line between Milepost BBR 6.89 to Milepost BBR 7.61, on its Northeast Region, Baltimore Terminal Subdivision Division
Project Location: Anne Arundel County
Approving Authority: U.S. Department of Transportation DOT/STB
Recommendation: Consistent with Qualifying Comments

Dear Ms. Yasbin:

In accordance with Presidential Executive Order 12372 and Code of Maryland Regulation 34.02.01.04-.06, the State Clearinghouse has coordinated the intergovernmental review of the referenced project. This letter constitutes the State process review and recommendation. This recommendation is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter.

Review comments were requested from the Maryland Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Transportation, and the Environment; Anne Arundel County; and the Maryland Department of Planning, including the Maryland Historical Trust. The Maryland Department of Agriculture, and Transportation; the Maryland Department of Planning and Anne Arundel County did not have comments.

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that no historic properties will be affected by this undertaking.

The Maryland Departments of Environment (MDE) and Natural Resources (DNR) found this project to be generally consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives, but included certain qualifying comments summarized below.

MDE comments are summarized in the zipped file. Please be advised that MDE has identified Tier II anti-degradation waterbodies and/or flood zones in the project area and additional caution and/or requirements apply.

Maryland Department of Planning • 120 E. Baltimore St., 20th Floor • Baltimore • Maryland • 21202

Tel: 410.767.4500 • Toll Free: 1.877.767.6272 • TTY users: Maryland Relay • Planning.Maryland.gov

Ms. Melanie Yasbin
September 14, 2026
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State Application Identifier: MD20260806-0508

DNR commented:

The project area occurs within a Special Species Project Review Area, indicating the presence of state listed rare, threatened, and endangered species. For future activities that could impact these species coordination with DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service (WHS) should occur to ensure that impacts to state listed rare, threatened, and endangered species are avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible. That coordination can occur by contacting Lori Byrne and following WHS's process outlined at https://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/pages/plants_wildlife/er.aspx.

Any statement of consideration given to the comments should be submitted to the approving authority, with a copy to the State Clearinghouse.

The State Application Identifier Number must be placed on any correspondence pertaining to this project. The State Clearinghouse must be kept informed if the approving authority cannot accommodate the recommendation.

Please remember, you must comply with all applicable state and local laws and regulations. If you need assistance or have questions, contact the State Clearinghouse staff person noted above at 410-767-4490 or through e-mail at rita.pritchett@maryland.gov. Also please complete the attached form and return it to the State Clearinghouse as soon as the status of the project is known. *Any substitutions of this form must include the State Application Identifier Number.* This will ensure that our files are complete.

Thank you for your cooperation with the MIRC process.

Sincerely,


Jason Dubow, Director
for Research, Review and Policy Division

JD:RP

Enclosure(s)

cc: Kevin Hardee - CSX
Denise Burrell - MDA
Nicole Eisenstein - MDE

Army Corps of Engineers
Patrick Felch - DNR
Brittany Brothers - MDOT

Stephen Walker - ANAR
Carter Reitman - MDPLS

Dixie Henry - MHT

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Wes Moore
Governor
Aruna Miller
Lt. Governor



Rebecca L. Flora
ACP, LEED ND / BD+C
Secretary
Kristin R. Fleckenstein
Deputy Secretary

PROJECT STATUS FORM

Please complete this form and return it to the State Clearinghouse at mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov upon receipt of notification that the project has been approved or not approved by the approving authority.

TO: Maryland State Clearinghouse
Maryland Department of Planning

DATE: _____
(Please fill in the date form completed)

FROM: _____
(Name of person completing this form.)

PHONE: _____
(Area Code & Phone number)

RE: State Application Identifier: MD20260806-0508
Project Description: CSX Transportation, Inc., ("CSXT") Proposes to Abandon Approximately 0.72-mile Rail Line between Milepost BBR 6.89 to Milepost BBR 7.61, on its Northeast Region, Baltimore Terminal Subdivision Division

PROJECT APPROVAL

This project/plan was: ☐ Approved ☐ Approved with Modification ☐ Disapproved

Name of Approving Authority: _____

Date Approved: _____

FUNDING APPROVAL

The funding (if applicable) has been approved for the period of:

_____, 202__ to _____, 202__ as follows:

Federal \$: _____

Local \$: _____

State \$: _____

Other \$: _____

OTHER

☐ Further comment or explanation is attached

Maryland Department of Planning • 120 E. Baltimore St., 20th Floor • Baltimore • Maryland • 21202

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MDPCH-1F

Mr. Melvin Yashin
The Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC
600 Baltimore Ave
Suite 301
Towson, MD 21204

Mr. Kevin Hardee
Joint Facilities
CSX
500 Water Street, J801
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Army Corps of Engineers

**MDE Comments for Clearinghouse Project Review:
MD20260806-0508**

Response Code: R-1

1. Any solid waste including construction, demolition and land clearing debris, generated from the subject project, must be properly disposed of at a permitted solid waste acceptance facility, or recycled if possible. Contact the Solid Waste Program at (410) 537-3315 for additional information regarding solid waste activities and contact the Resource Management Program at (410) 537-3314 for additional information regarding recycling activities.
2. The Solid Waste Program should be contacted directly at (410) 537-3315 by those facilities which generate or propose to generate or handle hazardous wastes to ensure these activities are being conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations. The Program should also be contacted prior to construction activities to ensure that the treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes and low-level radioactive wastes at the facility will be conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations.
3. The proposed project may involve rehabilitation, redevelopment, revitalization, or property acquisition of commercial, industrial property. Accordingly, MDE's Brownfields Site Assessment and Voluntary Cleanup Programs (VCP) may provide valuable assistance to you in this project. These programs involve environmental site assessment in accordance with accepted industry and financial institution standards for property transfer. For specific information about these programs and eligibility, please Land Restoration Program at (410) 537-3437.



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

Serena McIlwain, Secretary
Suzanne E. Dorsey, Deputy Secretary
Adam Ortiz, Deputy Secretary

CSX Transportation, Inc., ("CSXT") Proposes to Abandon Approximately 0.72-mile Rail Line between Milepost BBR 6.89 to Milepost BBR 7.61, on its Northeast Region, Baltimore Terminal Subdivision Division

Maryland Department of the Environment – WSA/WPRPP

REVIEW FINDING: R1 Consistent with Qualifying Comments
MD20260806-0508

Please be advised, the property or properties in MD20260806-0508 is/are in close proximity to Flood Zone AE (100-year Floodplain) and X (500-year Floodplain). The project coordinator(s) should follow local floodplain ordinances and Federal Emergency Management Agency's guidelines and standards.

It is advised that the coordinator(s) consider climate resiliency, which could include but not limited to the following steps (<https://toolkit.climate.gov/>):

- Explore Hazards: Identify climate and non-climate stressors, threats, and hazards and how they could affect assets (people and infrastructure).
- Assess vulnerability and risks: Evaluate assets vulnerability and estimate the risk to each asset.
- Investigate options: Consider possible solutions for your highest risks, check how others have responded to similar issues, and reduce your list to feasible actions.
- Prioritize and plan: Evaluate costs, benefits, and capacity to accomplish each action integrating the highest value actions into a stepwise plan.
- Take action: Move forward with your plan and check to see if your actions are increasing your resilience with monitoring.

The coordinator(s) is advised to State National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator, in MDE's Stormwater, Dam Safety, and Flood Management Program, at flood.maps@maryland.gov for additional information regarding the regulatory requirements for Floodplains and Storm Surges.

The coordinator(s) is advised to contact Matthew C. Rowe, CC-P, Deputy Director of MDE's Water and Science Administration, at (410) 537-3578 for additional information regarding Climate Change and Resiliency.

The image below depicts the area of project site that is impacted by flooding as determined by the Coast Smart CRAB tool.

