

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN DOCKET NO. AB 1076 1X

January 26, 2012

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:
() Notice of Exemption (X) Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

(X) NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

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OEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on December 23, 2011 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended 3 environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Modifications to the EA

Upon further independent review, OEA believes that Condition No. 1 in the EA should be modified. OEA is modifying Condition No. 1 so that it more specifically addresses the concerns raised by the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Water Management Division. The condition should be modified to read as follows:

Caddo Valley Railroad Company (CVRR), shall contact the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Water Management Division (ARNC-WMD) prior to beginning salvage activities to discuss its concerns regarding wetlands, streams, and implementation of best management practices. CVRR shall report the outcome of its discussions with ARNC-WMD to OEA.

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, OEA recommends that condition No. 1, as modified in this document, and conditions 2 and No. 3, as recommended in the EA, should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority. The conditions are:

1. **Caddo Valley Railroad Company (CVRR), shall contact the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Water Management Division (ARNC-WMD) prior to beginning salvage activities to discuss its concerns regarding wetlands, streams, and implementation of best management practices. CVRR shall report the outcome of its discussions with ARNC-WMD to OEA.**
2. **Caddo Valley Railroad Company (CVRR), shall contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arkansas Ecological Services Office (USFWS) prior to beginning salvage**

activities to discuss potential impacts to any federally listed endangered or threatened species. Should any potential impacts be identified, CVRR shall consult with OEA and USFWS to develop appropriate mitigation measures.

3. **Caddo Valley Railroad Company shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey at least 90 days prior to the beginning of salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.**

If the above conditions are imposed, OEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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