

EO-1945

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB-6 (Sub-No. 483X)

August 16, 2012

ABANDONMENT TYPE

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

() **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

(X) **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an EA for this proceeding on July 30, 2012 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended one environmental condition and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Comments on the EA

During the EA comment period, OEA received comments from the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation (State Historic Preservation Office or SHPO) (see attached). In its comments, the SHPO issues a finding of no adverse effect on historic properties.

Modifications to the EA

Considering the correspondence received after the EA was issued, OEA no longer recommends that a Section 106 condition be placed on any decision granting abandonment authority.

Conclusions

Pursuant to the Section 106 regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act at 36 C.F.R. § 800.4(d)(1), and following consultation with the SHPO and the public, the Office of

Environmental Analysis (OEA) has determined that the proposed abandonment would not affect historic properties listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register. The documentation for this finding, as specified at 36 C.F.R. § 800.11(d), consists of the railroad's historic report, all relevant correspondence, the EA, and this Final EA, which have been provided to the SHPO and made available to the public through posting on the Board's website at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

The EA comment period has ended and no conditions are recommended by OEA. OEA believes that the proposed action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Attachments: California SHPO's Comments

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July 25, 2012

Reply To: STB120618A

Karl Morell
Counsel
Ball Janick LLP
655 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 225
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Abandonment Exemption, BNSF Railway Company, Milepost 7.95 to Milepost 13.25, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, CA

Dear Mr. Morell:

You are initiating consultation on behalf of the STB pursuant to 36 CFR 800 regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding the above referenced undertaking.

As I presently understand it, the undertaking consists of abandonment of its Rail Freight Service Easement of 5.3 miles of rail line located in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California beginning at Milepost 7.95 (just north of West 67th Street curbline to Milepost 13.25 (just south of the existing Metro Green Line structure).

The removal of the track and track materials associated with BNSF's Rail Freight Easement abandonment has been addressed by the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor Project. Please see my letter, May 23, 2011(FTA110222A) with a finding of no adverse effect on historic properties. Your responsibilities under Section 106 of the NHPA are complete.

Thank you for considering historic properties in your planning process. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle C. Messinger of my staff at (916) 445-7005 or e-mail at MMessinger@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan H. Stratton for

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer