

#EO-2256

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB 414 (SUB-NO. 7X)

April 21, 2014

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

(X) Notice of Exemption () Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

(X) **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

() **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

In this proceeding, the Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd. (IAIS) filed a notice under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 seeking approval authority to abandon a 1.82 mile portion of rail line in Pottawattamie County, Iowa. The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on April 1, 2014 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended two environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusion

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the two conditions recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority. The conditions are:

1. The Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd. (IAIS) shall consult with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) prior to initiating salvage operations to determine what, if any, approvals or permits may be needed to: protect any rare species or significant natural communities and streams and other flowing waterbodies, and provide best management practices. If approvals or permits are needed, IAIS shall comply with the reasonable requirements of IDNR.
2. IAIS shall consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Rock Island District prior to initiating salvage activities for potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, and shall comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps.

OEA concludes that if the above conditions are imposed, the proposed action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

OEA CONTACT: Diana Wood *DFW*
202-245-0302
woodd@stb.dot.gov

Distribution: Office of Proceedings
OEA Chron
ECT