

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB 88 (SUB-NO. 13X)

October 28, 2013

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

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In this proceeding, the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Company (B&LE) filed a notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 seeking approval authority to abandon a 0.79 mile portion of rail line in Allegheny County, Pa. The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on September 24, 2013 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. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Company shall consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) regarding potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, and shall comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps.
2. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Company shall consult with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Southwest Regional Office, to ensure that any concerns in the right-of-way are addressed regarding demolition waste; fugitive dust; contaminated soil; watershed disturbances; erosion and sedimentation; wastewater discharges; concrete waste discharge; water tanks; oil and gas wells; water wells; and emergency response contingency plans.

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

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