

ED-1899

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN DOCKET NO. AB 6 (Sub-No. 481X)

May 29, 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

(X) NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

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OEА served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on May 11, 2012 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEА recommended two environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended and no new comments were received. Accordingly, OEА recommends that the conditions previously recommended in the EA be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, BNSF Railway Company shall consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' St. Paul District (Corps) regarding potential impacts to waters of the United States and, if applicable, shall comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps.
2. To address the North Dakota State Water Commission's (SWC) concerns regarding identified floodway areas and the proper disposal of waste material associated with the proposed abandonment, BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) shall consult with SWC regarding salvaging and abandonment procedures prior to commencement of any salvage activities.

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

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