

E0-1789

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN DOCKET NO. AB 1073X

November 2, 2011

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**

OEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on August 12, 2011 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. OEA issued a Final Environmental Assessment (Final EA) on August 30, 2011 modifying the condition recommended in the EA and concluding that the modified condition should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority. The Board imposed the condition in a decision dated September 7, 2011. OEA issued a Supplemental Final Environmental Assessment (Supplemental Final EA) on September 21, 2011 modifying the condition recommended in the Final EA, recommending a new condition, and concluding that the modified condition and the new condition should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority. The Board imposed the conditions in a decision dated October 5, 2011.

On November 1, 2011, OEA received a late-filed comment from William Mullins, attorney for the applicant, Alabama & Florida Railway Co., Inc. (A&F). A&F submitted a letter from the Alabama SHPO stating that the line is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, A&F requested that the Board remove the Section 106 condition. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the Section 106 historic preservation condition imposed in the October 5, 2011 decision be removed.

Conclusions

OEA recommends that the Section 106 historic preservation condition imposed in the October 5, 2011 decision be removed.

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