

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

#EO-1384
JAW

POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
STB DOCKET NO. AB-303 (Sub-No. 35X)

January 8, 2010

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**

SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on December 18, 2009 for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended two (2) environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Comments on the EA

SEA has not received any new comments following the issuance of the EA.

Modifications to the EA

Not applicable.

Conclusions

Based on the information received in this proceeding, SEA recommends that the following two conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, the Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL) shall consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) regarding potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. WCL shall also consult with the Corps regarding impacts to navigable waterways in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. WCL shall comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps and report the results of the consultation in writing back to the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA).

2. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, WCL shall consult with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) regarding potential impacts on water quality, wetlands, 100-year floodplain, endangered or threatened species and critical habitats, wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, national or state parks, soil and water conservation, land use, and environmental cleanup/waste management. WCL shall report the results of its consultation with WDNR in writing back to SEA.

SEA CONTACT:

Diana Wood *DW*
202-245-0302
woodd@stb.dot.gov

Distribution:

Ann Newman, Office of Proceedings
SEA Chron
ECT