

E0-2121

Re: 16 public Crossings and 11 Private Crossings --AB1097X

Joshua Wayland

to:

Junius Smith

10/19/2012 05:08 PM

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From: Joshua Wayland/STB

To: Junius Smith

Mr. Smith,

Typically, when a railroad states that an abandonment would result in the closure of some number of crossings, they are saying that there will no longer be a rail crossing at that location, not that the road itself will be closed. This means that they will remove the rail and signal equipment; they are also usually required to patch the road with gravel or asphalt, as needed. To my understanding, blocking or closing the road altogether would be beyond the railroad's authority.

If there are other circumstances in this case that would cause the roads to be closed or blocked in any way, I have not been made aware of them. In my experience that would be very unusual. It would also require coordination with local transportation authorities and the property owners if it is a private road. I will follow up on Monday with the railroad just to be sure. You might also want to check in with the city governments of Easley and Pickens, as these are the entities that have proposed to take over management of the right-of-way.

I hope this helps. As always, just let me know if you need any additional information and I will do my best to assist you.

Best regards,

Josh Wayland

Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
(202) 245-0330

-----Junius Smith <juniussmith@ymail.com> wrote: -----

To: Joshua.Wayland@stb.dot.gov
From: Junius Smith <juniussmith@ymail.com>
Date: 10/19/2012 01:29PM
Subject: 16 public Crossings and 11 Private Crossings --AB1097X

Mr. Wayland,

The home owners would like something in writing about the non closing of the 16 public and 11 private crossings. Yesterday, in our phone conversation you said that these crossings would would not be closed except to remove the rails. It would be a disaster for the home owners if these crossings were closed.

Junius Smith
Practitioner for the Land and Home owners