

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

E0-1146

CG

POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
STB DOCKET NO. AB-1026 (Sub-No. 0X)

February 2, 2009

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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SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on January 13, 2009 for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended four 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, SEA recommends that the following conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. The Bellingham International Railroad, LLC. shall consult with the Washington Department of Environmental Quality (Jessica Moore, 360-407-7421, jemo461@ecy.wa.gov), prior to beginning salvage activities to determine whether state coastal management consistency certification is required. If consistency certification is required, the railroad shall be prohibited from performing any salvage activities until it obtains consistency certification and shall then notify the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis, pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1451 *et seq.* and the Board's environmental regulations at 49 CFR 1105.9.
2. The Bellingham International Railroad, LLC. shall consult with the Washington Department of Environmental Quality (Jerry Shervey 425-649-7215, ghshe461@ecy.wa.gov) prior to beginning salvage operations regarding any reasonable requirements it may have to comply with Section 402 of the Clean Water Act.
3. The Bellingham International Railroad, LLC. shall consult with the Washington Department of Environmental Quality (Rebekah Padgett 425-649-7219, rpada461@ecy.wa.gov) prior to beginning salvage operations regarding any reasonable requirements it may have to comply with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

4. The Bellingham International Railroad, LLC. shall consult with the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) prior to the commencement of any salvage activities, regarding potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, and shall comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps.

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

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