

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB 439 (Sub-No. 1X)

May 13, 2015

RECOMMENDATION: Remove Section 106 Condition

In this proceeding, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (“DART”) filed a notice of exemption to abandon a 11.45-mile line of railroad between approximately milepost 45.5 at Westmoreland Road and approximately milepost 56.95 at Tenison in Dallas County, Texas. Because the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f (NHPA), had not been completed at the time of the Board’s July 29, 2003 decision, the Board imposed a condition requiring DART to retain the line segment unaltered until completion of the section 106 process of the NHPA.

New Comments On the Abandonment

Section 106 Condition

On May 13, 2015, the Texas Historical Commission forwarded correspondence to OEA stating its position that the continued use of the trestle bridge as a hiking and biking trail as well as satisfaction of all other stipulations referenced in comments on this proceeding are adequate mitigation for the adverse effects associated with abandonment of the line. The correspondence from the Texas SHPO concludes the final step of the Section 106 process. Accordingly, the Board has satisfied its responsibilities under Section 106 of the NHPA in this proceeding, and OEA is recommending that the Board remove the Section 106 condition.

Conclusions

For the reasons stated above, OEA recommends that the Board remove the Section 106 condition that was imposed in the July 29, 2003 decision. If this condition is removed, OEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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