

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN DOCKET NO. AB 1265X

May 14, 2019

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**

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OEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on April 2, 2019 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended no environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. OEA received no comments during the comment period and issued a Final EA on April 19, 2019.

In a letter dated May 10, 2019 and submitted after the comment period ended, the Delaware Nation stated that it has no objection to the proposed abandonment. However, the Delaware Nation requested immediate notification and consultation if an archaeological site or artifacts are discovered during any phase of the proposed abandonment. Accordingly, OEA is recommending that the Board reopen this proceeding and impose an unanticipated discovery condition.

Conclusions

For the reasons stated above, OEA recommends that the following new environmental condition be imposed:

1. In the event that any unanticipated archaeological sites, human remains, funerary items or associated artifacts are discovered during salvage activities, Lehigh Valley Rail Management, LLC (LVRM) will immediately cease all work and notify the Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Delaware Nation Tribal Preservation Officer (THPO) pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.13(b). OEA shall then consult with the SHPO (or THPO), LVRM, and other consulting parties, if any, to determine whether appropriate mitigation measures are necessary.

If the above condition is imposed, OEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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