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SERVICE DATE – LATE RELEASE JUNE 26, 2007

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 678X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.–ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION–IN CLAY COUNTY, IL

Decided: June 26, 2007

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F–Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 0.86-mile line of railroad on its Northern Region, Louisville Division, Illinois Subdivision, from milepost BXO 74.14 to milepost BXO 75.0, known as the Flora North Branch, City of Flora, in Clay County, IL. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on May 25, 2007 (72 FR 29362). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on June 27, 2007.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on June 1, 2007. In the EA, SEA noted that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified three geodetic station markers that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. Therefore, SEA recommends that CSXT be required to notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities in order to plan for the possible relocation of the three geodetic station markers by NGS.

No comments to the EA were received by the June 15, 2007 due date. Accordingly, the condition recommended by SEA will be imposed. Based on SEA's recommendation, the proposed abandonment, if implemented as conditioned, will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. This proceeding is reopened.
2. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the rail line described above is subject to the condition that CSXT shall notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities in order to plan for the possible relocation of the three geodetic station markers by NGS.

3. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary