

Blodgett, Kenneth

ET-26799

From: Environmental Analysis
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2019 8:51 AM
To: Blodgett, Kenneth
Subject: FW: [JIRA] (IMOV-6325) NGS Response: STB Docket No. AB-1291X

FYI...

Danielle Gosselin
Deputy Director
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
danielle.gosselin@stb.gov
(202) 245-0300

From: deborah.brooks <ngs.infocenter@noaa.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2019 2:18 PM
To: sea@stb.dot.gov
Subject: [JIRA] (IMOV-6325) NGS Response: STB Docket No. AB-1291X

Thank you for submitting your request. Below is your request summary

(IMOV-6325) NGS Response: STB Docket No. AB-1291X

Components: NGS_Responses

Created: 13 Dec 2019 2:17 PM

Thank you for informing the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) of the Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. (AESI)'s decision to abandon an approximately 6.0 mile segment of rail line between Milepost 0.0 at Marjorie, Texas to Milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas.

There could be geodetic survey marks located in the area described, and any marks still present could be disturbed by the abandonment. While it is illegal to disturb or destroy a mark, sometimes disturbing or destroying a mark is unavoidable. In such cases, the mark can often be preserved or reset with advanced planning. NGS provides the public with tools to search for and locate survey marks, see the NGS Data Explorer (<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/NGSDataExplorer/>).

If a mark will be disturbed by the abandonment, AESI should consult with NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb, or destroy any geodetic marks identified nearby. Information is available online to help reset marks or report disturbed/destroyed marks:

<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/surveys/mark-recovery/index.shtml>

<<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://geodesy.noaa.gov/surveys/mark-recovery/index.shtml&sa=D&ust=1560385764139000&usg=AFQjCNGDkoXCHtBcDJBsXm2KQLkhcwYDxQ>>.

This notice is also being shared with Dan Prouty, (Dan.Prouty@noaa.gov, 206-306-4822) the Regional Geodetic Advisor, so he may work with any interested local agencies or stakeholders.

If you have additional questions, email NGS.Infocenter@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Deborah M. Brooks

Communications Specialist

deborah.brooks@noaa.gov

More information on preserving marks, mark resets, and destroyed marks.

Preserving Marks

Significant resources were invested to create an extensive geodetic network across the United States by establishing precise coordinates at physical survey marks. Disturbing or destroying these marks reduces geodetic control available to local surveyors, so please make every effort to preserve this valuable network.

Mark Resets

If a mark is about to be destroyed (e.g., due to planned construction), it may be possible to reset the mark and retain the geodetic control. Review the Bench Mark Reset Procedures (https://geodesy.noaa.gov/PUBS_LIB/Benchmark_4_1_2011.pdf) or contact your closest geodetic advisor (<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/ADVISORS/index.shtml>).

Please do not attempt to reset a mark that has been separated from the base. Any remnants of destroyed marks must be properly discarded and not reused in any manner, as this is a violation of Federal law.

Destroyed Marks

If it is determined that a mark has been destroyed, please provide enough photo evidence to show how this determination was made. To submit this information to NGS, follow the instructions regarding "destroyed marks" on the Mark Recovery Entry web page (https://geodesy.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/recvy_entry_www.pr)