

#E1-23283



Re: Ameren Rock Island Rail Line Abandonment

Alan Reinkemeyer

to:

Diana.Wood

06/03/2016 09:34 AM

Hide Details

From: Alan Reinkemeyer <reink4@embarqmail.com>

To: Diana.Wood@stb.dot.gov

History: This message has been replied to.

Thank you Ms Wood - you appear one of the few people I have encountered with this project who might appreciate my concern this project has to our threaten and endangered bat species that live along the corridor. I am attaching a photo of a bat in one of the rail tunnels. I have lived in the area my entire life and know the bats use the tunnels and under the old rail bridges often.

Also after 30 years of abandonment there are significant wetlands that have been created by the clogged culverts and beaver dams. Bill Bryan (MoDNR Parks Director) advised at a public meeting that they will be draining these. We have several acres of that sort of habitat and don't want to lose it. Also I don't think any assessment for wetland endangered species has been completed.

When I spoke with the local USFWS they became agitated when they couldn't answer my questions and said they don't look at all projects - even one the size of this project. Thus I am ascertain politics is involved.

Thanks for your time.





Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 3, 2016, at 8:05 AM, Diana.Wood@stb.dot.gov wrote:

Dear Mr. Reinkemeyer:

I received your inquiry regarding the above referenced abandonment and current salvage operations. You indicated that tree clearing has been occurring despite the fact that temporal restrictions are in place that prohibit tree clearing between April and October, particularly trees that are 5 inches and greater in size. I have been in communication with the railroad's attorney and will be discussing this very serious matter with all parties involved in the project next week to determine the appropriate action. In the meantime, I understand that the salvage contractor has been ordered to stop clearing brush.

All the environmental correspondence for this case is available on the Board's web site under the docket number AB 1068 (Sub-No. 3X).

To access the Board's decisions, go to

www.stb.dot.gov and click on decisions and conduct a search of the docket number. You may also access filings in the drop down menu and then conducting a search. To access environmental correspondence, click on environmental matter and then scroll to environmental correspondence. You may conduct a search of incoming or outgoing correspondence (from top menu) and then scroll to docket number.

I've attached some pertinent information:

Diana F. Wood
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW Room 1110
Washington, DC 20423
202-245-0302 (phone)
202-245-0454 (fax)

<Decision USFWS Temporal Restriction.pdf>

<EA.pdf>

<USFWS Letter.pdf>

<Alan Reinkemeyer June 2016.pdf>