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Norfolk Southern Corporation
Three Commercial Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-2191

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Kathy C. Headrick
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July 24, 2007

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VIA DHL EXPRESS

Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20024

Re: STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 293X) – Norfolk Southern Railway Company–
Abandonment Exemption – in Norfolk and Virginia Beach, Virginia

Dear Mr. Williams:

Subsequent to the filing of the Petition for Exemption with regard to the above-referenced proceeding, Norfolk Southern Railway Company received the enclosed letter from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Environmental Quality, in response to the request for environmental consultation, stating that a Virginia Water Protection permit does not appear to be required.

Very truly yours,

Kathy C. Headrick
Kathy C. Headrick

Enclosures (original and 10 copies)

cc: Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis



AB290

(Sub. No. 293)

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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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L. Preston Bryant, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4000
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July 16, 2007

Mr. Marcellus C. Kirchner
Director Strategic Planning
Norfolk Southern Railway Company
Three Commercial Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9207

RE: Norfolk Southern Railway Company
Abandonment – in Norfolk, Virginia and Virginia Beach, Virginia

Dear Mr. Kirchner:

I have reviewed your request for scoping comments regarding the abandonment of the Norfolk Southern Railway. According to the report, the railway does cross waterways, and is adjacent to wetland areas, but there are no plans to alter the existing roadbed. The proposed abandonment will occur within the existing right-of-way. Therefore, a Virginia Water Protection permit does not appear to be required.

In general, DEQ encourages the use of erosion and sediment control measures, adherence to storm water management regulations, and careful construction practices to minimize temporary impacts to surface waters during site construction activities. In addition, standard erosion and sediment control measures as presented in the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook should be implemented to further reduce potential impacts to surface waters.

DEQ appreciates the opportunity to comment on this project. If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me at (804) 698-4007.

Sincerely,

Michelle Henicheck, PWS
Environmental Specialist II

cc: File