

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN DOCKET NO. AB-33 (Sub-No. 313X)

August 13, 2013

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

(X) Notice of Exemption () Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

(X) NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

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OEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on July 26, 2013 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended two environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the following conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

- 1. Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) prior to beginning salvage activities. If NGS identifies geodetic station markers that may be affected by the proposed abandonment, UP shall notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers in order to plan for the possible relocation of the geodetic station markers by NGS.**
- 2. In the event that any unanticipated archaeological sites, human remains, funerary items or associated artifacts are discovered during the railroad's salvage activities, Union Pacific Railroad Company will immediately cease all work and notify the Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), interested federally recognized tribes, and the Kansas Historical Society (State Historic Preservation Office or SHPO) pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.13(b). OEA shall then consult with the SHPO, interested federally recognized tribes, the railroad, and other consulting parties, if any, to determine whether appropriate mitigation measures are necessary.**

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

OEA CONTACT: Joshua Wayland (202-245-0330)