

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB-290 (Sub-No. 278X) and
AB-55 (Sub-No. 728X)

August 25, 2014

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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In this proceeding, Central of Georgia Railroad Company (CGA), a subsidiary of Norfolk Southern Railway Company, and CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSX) jointly filed a notice of exemption and discontinuance of service exemption under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50. CGA seeks exemption from the requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 in connection with the abandonment of a line of railroad and CSX seeks to discontinue operating rights and to terminate common carrier obligation over a portion of the same line in Montgomery, Alabama. The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on August 8, 2014 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended two environmental conditions.

Conclusion

The EA comment period has ended and no comments were received. OEA recommends that the following conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. Prior to the commencement of any salvage activities, CGA and/or CSX shall consult with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management to confirm that the project is consistent with state and local water quality standards and that no permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act are required.
2. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, CGA and/or CSX shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS). CGA and/or CSX shall notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic survey markers in order to plan for the possible relocation of the survey markers by NGS.

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

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