

SERVICE DATE – SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC 20423**

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Docket No. AB 1317X

**Kiski Junction Railroad - Abandonment Exemption –
In Armstrong and Westmoreland Counties, Pa.**

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) has expired in this:
(X) Notice of Exemption () Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

(X) NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

() NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

In this proceeding, Kiski Junction Railroad (KJRR), a class III railroad, filed a notice of exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 1152.50 seeking exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 in connection with the abandonment of a line of railroad in Armstrong and Westmoreland counties, Pennsylvania. The rail line proposed for abandonment consists of two segments: (1) Line Code 2229, which extends approximately 1.1 miles from milepost 30.0 in Alladin to milepost 28.8 in Armstrong and Westmoreland counties, PA, and (2) Line Code 2242, which extends approximately 4 miles from milepost 0.0 at the connection of Line Code 2229, to milepost 4.0 in Armstrong County, PA (the Line).

The Draft EA comment period has ended. OEA received no comments after issuance of the Draft EA. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the following condition previously recommended in the Draft EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:¹

- Kiski Junction Railroad shall notify the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at NGS.Infocenter@noaa.gov at least 90 days prior to beginning abandonment-related salvage activities.

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

By the Board, Danielle Gosselin, Acting Director, Office of Environmental Analysis.

¹ If an interim trail use agreement under 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d) and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29 is reached for the Line (or a portion thereof), compliance with this condition is not required with respect to any portion of the Line covered by the interim trail use agreement for the duration of the agreement.