

SERVICE DATE – JULY 21, 2022

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC 20423**

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 808X)

**CSX Transportation, Inc. – Abandonment Exemption –
In Gwinnett County, Ga.**

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, CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) filed a verified notice under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 seeking exemption from the requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 in connection with the abandonment of a line of railroad in Gwinnett County, Georgia. The rail line proposed for abandonment extends approximately 0.13-miles from milepost Val Sta. 12+37 to milepost Val Sta. 19+52 on CSXT's Atlanta Division, Abbeville Subdivision, Lawrenceville Branch (the Line). The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served a Draft EA for this proceeding on July 1, 2022 for public review and comment. In the Draft EA, OEA recommended one environmental condition and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusions

The Draft EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the following condition previously recommended in the Draft EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority.¹

In the event that any unanticipated archaeological sites, human remains, funerary items or associated artifacts are discovered during the railroad's abandonment-related salvage activities, CSXT Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) will immediately cease all work and notify the Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), interested Federally recognized tribes, and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Historic Preservation Commission (State Historic Preservation Office or SHPO) pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.13(b). OEA will then consult with the SHPO, interested Federally recognized tribes, CSXT, and other consulting parties, if any, to determine whether appropriate mitigation measures are necessary.

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

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, Director, Office of Environmental Analysis.