

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

#ED-1779
D4W

**SUPPLEMENT TO FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB 1086X
DOCKET NO. AB 227 (SUB-NO. 12X)

October 18, 2011

ABANDONMENT TYPE

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

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

() **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

(X) **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

By decision served on October 6, 2011, the Board imposed 2 environmental conditions requiring the Pittsburgh & West Virginia Railroad (PWV) to: (1) consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) prior to commencement of any salvage activities regarding the potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, and to comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps; and (2) consult with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection prior to commencement of any salvage activities to ensure that any concerns in the vicinity of the right-of-way are addressed regarding demolition waste; fugitive dust; contaminated soil; watershed disturbances; erosion and sedimentation; wastewater discharges; concrete waste discharge; water tanks; oil and gas wells; water wells; or the need to develop emergency response contingency plans.

On October 17, 2011, OEA received a late-filed comment from the National Geodetic Survey (NGS). NGS identified 2 geodetic station markers in the area of the proposed abandonment and has requested that it be notified at least 90 days in advance of any activities that would disturb or destroy these markers in order to plan for their relocation. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the Board impose an additional condition that requires the railroad to consult with NGS and to notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that would disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.

Conclusions

In addition to the 2 previously imposed conditions, OEA recommends that the following environmental condition be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. The Pittsburgh & West Virginia Railroad (PWV) shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) and notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.

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

OEA CONTACT:

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Distribution:

Andrea Pope-Matheson, Office of Proceedings

OEA Chron

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Attachment

#E1-18702
DBW

Re: [NGS Response, STB Docket AB-1086X]

Vicki Rutson to: Diana Wood

Sent by: Kenneth Blodgett

10/17/2011 01:13 PM

Simon Monroe

Thank you for sharing your railroad abandonme...

10/17/2011 10:04:04 AM



Simon Monroe

<Simon.Monroe@noaa.gov>

10/17/2011 10:03 AM

To mbarron@fletcher.sippel.com

cc Surface Transportation Board <sea@stb.dot.gov>, Surveyorlady@yahoo.com, Gilbert Mitchell

<Gilbert.Mitchell@noaa.gov>, Surveyorlady@yahoo.com

Subject [NGS Response, STB Docket AB-1086X]

Thank you for sharing your railroad abandonment environmental report for
PITTSBURGH, Allegheny County, PENNSYLVANIA.

Approximately 02 geodetic survey marks may be located in the area
described.

If marks will be disturbed by the abandonment, [THE RAILROAD] shall
consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to
beginning salvage activities that will disturb, or destroy any geodetic
station

marks are described on the attached file. Additional advice is provided
at

<http://geodesy.noaa.gov/marks/railroads/>

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