

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB 290 (Sub-No. 327X)

July 30, 2015

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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The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served the EA for this proceeding on July 10, 2015 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended three 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. Norfolk Southern Railway Company shall notify the National Geodetic Survey (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. Prior to the commencement of any salvage activities, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) shall consult with the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) regarding the potential for impacts of salvage activities on water quality and shall comply with that agency's reasonable permitting requirements. NSR shall report back the results of any consultations with NCDENR prior to beginning salvage activities.**
- 3. Prior to the commencement of any salvage activities, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) shall consult with the Wilmington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) regarding the potential for impacts of salvage activities on wetlands and waterways and shall comply with the Corps' reasonable permitting requirements. NSR shall report back the results of any consultations with the Corps prior to beginning salvage activities.**

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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