

#EA 2207
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB 33 (SUB-NO. 316X)

December 6, 2013

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**

() **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

In this proceeding, the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed a notice under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 seeking approval authority to abandon 0.59 miles of rail line in Franklin County, Iowa. The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on November 15, 2013 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended one environmental condition and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusion

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the one condition recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority. The condition is:

1. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) shall consult with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) Conservation and Recreation Division to ensure that any concerns in the right-of-way are addressed regarding disturbance to any rare species or significant natural communities. UP shall also consult with IDNR's Environmental Services Division to determine the permit requirements, if any, for watershed disturbances, erosion and sedimentation, or wastewater discharges.

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

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