

30103
DO

SERVICE DATE - MARCH 31, 1999

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-391 (sub-No. 6X)

RED RIVER VALLEY & WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY--
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION--IN CASS COUNTY, ND

Decided: March 26, 1999

Red River Valley & Western Railroad Company (RRVW) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments to abandon approximately 18.4 miles of rail line from milepost 18.7 near Alice to milepost 0.3 near Casselton, ND. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on March 4, 1999 (64 FR 10526-27). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on April 3, 1999.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on March 9, 1999. In the EA, SEA states that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified two geodetic station markers (A 50 and P 18) that may be affected by the proposed abandonment. NGS requests that it be notified 90 days in advance of any activities that may disturb or destroy these markers to plan for their relocation. Therefore, SEA recommends that a condition be imposed requiring RRVW to consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic markers. The condition will be imposed.

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. This proceeding is reopened.
2. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the line described above is subject to the condition that RRVW consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic station markers.

STB Docket No. AB-391 (Sub-No. 6X)

3. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary