

From: sandy_vana-miller@fws.gov on behalf of [ColoradoES, FW6](#)
To: [Assenza, Adam](#)
Subject: BNSF Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption Project, Docket No. AB 6 (TAILS# 2018-I-0213)
Date: Friday, November 24, 2017 2:53:23 PM
Attachments: [0327_001.pdf](#)

Good afternoon Adam,

I have attached the final response rendered for the BNSF Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption Project, Docket No. AB 6. Please let me know if you need anything else. Thank you.

***Please be advised, the Ecological Services office for U.S. Fish and Wildlife for the Mountain-Prairie Region will now be utilizing a new office inbox. Consultations and projects will still be reviewed by the same office. Please send all new requests to coloradoes@fws.gov . Thank you.

2018-I-0213
2017-TA-0030

46083
OEA

SERVICE DATE – NOVEMBER 3, 2017

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

- ☐ NO CONCERNS
☐ CONCUR NOT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT
☒ NO COMMENT

Drue DeBerry
Colorado and Nebraska Field Supervisor

DATE

11/20/17

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

WASHINGTON, DC 20423

RECEIVED NOV 14 2017

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Docket No. AB 6 (Sub-No. 494X)

BNSF Railway Company – Abandonment Exemption
In Larimer County, Colo.

BACKGROUND

In this proceeding, BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) filed a notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 seeking exemption from the requirements of 49 USC § 10903 in connection with the abandonment of a line of railroad in Larimer County, Colorado. The rail line proposed for abandonment extends 0.5 miles between Milepost 74.5 and milepost 75.0 (the Line). A map depicting the Line in relationship to the area served is appended to this Environmental Assessment (EA). If the notice becomes effective, the railroad would be able to salvage remaining track, ties, and other railroad appurtenances and to dispose of the right-of-way.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

BNSF submitted a combined Environmental and Historic Report that concludes that the quality of the human environment would not be affected significantly from the proposed abandonment. BNSF seeks to consummate the abandonment and salvage the Line. BNSF served the Environmental and Historic Report on appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as required by the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) environmental rules [49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(b)].¹ The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) has reviewed and investigated the record in this proceeding.

Diversion of Traffic

According to BNSF, no local or overhead traffic has moved over the Line since 2009. Therefore, no traffic would need to be rerouted if the proposed abandonment were approved. Accordingly, the proposed abandonment would not adversely impact the development, use, and transportation of energy resources or recyclable commodities; adversely impact the transportation of ozone-depleting materials; or result in the diversion of rail traffic to truck traffic that could result in significant impacts to air quality or the local transportation network.

¹ The Environmental and Historic Report is available for viewing on the Board's website at www.stb.dot.gov by going to "E-Library," selecting "Filings," and then conducting a search for AB 6 (Sub-No. 494X).