

EO-3107

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
DOCKET NO. AB 6 (Sub-No. 499X)

August 9, 2019

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**

The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an EA for this proceeding on July 19, 2019 for public review and comment. In the EA, OEA recommended two environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Comments on the EA

OEA received correspondence from the National Geodetic Survey on August 6, 2019 stating that up to 41 geodetic station markers could be impacted by the proposed abandonment. Accordingly, OEA has retained the previously recommended consultation condition that pertains to these markers.

Modifications to the EA

None.

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the following conditions previously recommended in the EA be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. BNSF Railway Company and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) Regional Geodetic Advisor and notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.
2. BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACTMA) shall retain their interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all historic properties including sites, buildings, structures, and objects within the project right-of-way (the Area of Potential Effect) that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places until the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. § 306108, has been completed. BNSF and LACTMA shall report back to the Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) regarding any consultations with the California State Parks, Office of Historic Preservation (State Historic Preservation Office or SHPO) and the public. BNSF may not file its consummation notice and LACMTA may not initiate any salvaging activities related to abandonment (including removal of tracks and ties) until the Section 106 process has been completed and the Board has removed this condition.

If the recommended conditions are imposed, OEA believes that the proposed action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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