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SERVICE DATE - JUNE 22, 2001

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 589X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.--ABANDONMENT
EXEMPTION--IN LOGAN COUNTY, WV

Decided: June 18, 2001

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F--Exempt Abandonments to abandon an approximately 1.63-mile line of its railroad between milepost CMA 0.00 at Stollings and milepost CMA 1.63 at Fort Branch, in Logan County, WV. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on May 25, 2001 (67 FR 28943-44). The exemption is scheduled to become effective on June 26, 2001.

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) served an environmental assessment (EA) in this proceeding on June 1, 2001. In the EA, SEA states that the West Virginia Division of Culture and History has not yet completed its determination of the historic significance of the right-of-way and requested additional information from CSXT. Therefore, SEA recommends the imposition of a condition requiring CSXT to retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of the line in its entirety until completion of the section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f (NHPA).

SEA also states that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has identified four geodetic station markers 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.

The recommended conditions will be imposed.

As conditioned, this decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. Upon reconsideration, the exemption of the abandonment of the line described above is subject to the conditions that CSXT shall: (a) retain its interest in the line in its entirety until completion of the section 106 process of the NHPA; and (b) consult with the NGS and provide NGS with 90 days' notice prior to disturbing or destroying any geodetic station markers.

2. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary