

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN
STB DOCKET NO. AB-1019X

November 13, 2008

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

() Notice of Exemption (X) Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

(X) NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

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SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on October 10, 2008 for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended two (2) environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Comments on the EA

SEA has not received any new comments following the issuance of the EA.

Modifications to the EA

Not applicable.

Conclusions

Based on the information received in this proceeding, SEA recommends that the following two conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. Prior to commencement of any salvage activities, Transit America, LLC, shall consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) prior to conducting any salvage activities of the rail line for potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, and shall comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps.
2. Transit America, LLC (TA) shall retain its 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, 16 U.S.C. 470f, has been completed. TA shall report back to the Section of Environmental Analysis regarding any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office and the public. TA may not file its consummation

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notice or initiate any salvage 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.

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