

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN DOCKET NO. AB-57 61X

September 2, 2014

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**

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In this proceeding, Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a Canadian Pacific (Soo Line) filed a notice of exemption to abandon 10.63 miles of rail line in Racine County, Wisconsin. Because OEA had not heard from the SHPO at the time of the Board's March 18, 2014 decision, the Board imposed a Section 106 condition requiring Soo Line to: a) retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all sites, buildings, structures and objects within the project right-of-way that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (generally, 50 years old or older) until the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f, has been completed; b) report back to the Office of Environmental Analysis regarding any consultations with the SHPO, any other Section 106 consulting parties and the public; and c) not file its consummation 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.

On August 21, 2014, OEA received a comment from Kimberly Cook of the Wisconsin Historical Society (SHPO) stating that SHPO concurred that there were no eligible properties in the area of potential affect (APE). SHPO also noted that it had no further concerns under Section 106. Accordingly, OEA recommends that the Section 106 historic preservation condition imposed in the March 18, 2014 decision be removed.

Conclusions

OEA recommends that the Section 106 historic preservation condition imposed in the March 18, 2014 decision be removed.

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