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November 21, 2019

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 21, 2019
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Public Record

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20423

Re: **Docket No. AB-1291X**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. – Abandonment Exemption –
In Milam County, Texas

Dear Ms. Brown:

Following is an individual abandonment petition for exemption of Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. This submission also includes a draft Federal Register notice pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.60(c) for the Board's use. A payment in the amount of \$7,800.00, representing the appropriate filing fee for this petition for exemption, has been submitted through pay.gov.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report (Exhibit D to the Petition) has been provided to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis. If there are any questions about this matter, please contact me at (312) 252-1504, or by e-mail: rwimbish@fletcher-sippel.com.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Wimbish
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosures

FILE
November 21, 2019
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FEE RECEIVED
November 21, 2019
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-1291X

**ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN MILAM COUNTY, TEX.**

**ABANDONMENT PETITION FOR EXEMPTION OF
ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.**

**Robert A. Wimbish
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**ATTORNEYS FOR ALCOA ENERGY
SERVICES, INC.**

Dated: November 21, 2019

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB DOCKET NO. AB-1291X

ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN MILAM COUNTY, TEX.

ABANDONMENT PETITION FOR EXEMPTION OF
ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10502 and the corresponding regulations of the Surface Transportation Board (the “Board”) at 49 C.F.R. §§ 1121 and 1152.60, Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. (“AESI”) hereby petitions the Board for an exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 to abandon a roughly six-mile line of railroad (the “Line”). A map showing the location of the Line over which abandonment is sought is attached to this petition as Exhibit A. A draft *Federal Register* notice of this petition in the form prescribed by 49 C.F.R. § 1152.60(c) is attached hereto as Exhibit B. Certificates of compliance with the service requirement of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.60(d) and the newspaper publication requirement of 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12, respectively, are attached hereto as Exhibit C.

Common carrier operations on the Line ceased in February of 2018, following the closure of a smelter facility (the “Sandow Facility”) previously operated by a corporate predecessor of Alcoa USA Corp. (“A-USA” – the current owner of the Sandow Facility assets and surrounding land).¹ The Sandow Facility will never be restored to operation, because the

¹ A-USA and AESI are commonly-controlled holdings of Alcoa Corporation.

power plants and smelter associated with that facility have been de-commissioned. AESI is unsure whether, or if, any future demand for rail transportation on the Line will materialize, particularly at volumes that would warrant restoring rail service. AESI has determined that it would be appropriate to seek Board authority to abandon the Line to remove the subject railroad assets from the scope of the Board's jurisdiction, freeing AESI (and the Line) from STB regulation, and allowing AESI and its affiliate, A-USA, greater flexibility in possible future disposition of the Line and surrounding lands. For the time being, however, AESI intends to preserve the Line, post-abandonment authorization (if granted), as private, unregulated trackage, but it cannot rule out the possibility of future salvage.

AESI acquired the railroad assets that comprise the Line from the Rockdale, Sandow & Southern Railroad Company ("RSS" – a holding of Genesee & Wyoming Inc.) at the end of 2018.² Prior to late 2005, RSS was itself a longstanding railroad holding of the corporate predecessor of Alcoa Corporation,³ and RSS's primary function was, and generally had been until the suspension of service in 2018, to handle traffic in interstate commerce to and from the Sandow Facility and to independent rail shippers whose businesses were related to Sandow Facility operations. Following the permanent closure of the Sandow Facility and the corresponding cessation of rail shipments, A-USA perceived that RSS might soon pursue abandonment and liquidation of the Line, particularly since it was apparent that the Line's future

² Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. – Acquisition Exemption – Rockdale, Sandow & Southern Railroad Company, FD No. 36257 (STB served Dec. 14, 2018) (the "AESI Notice").

³ Aluminum Company of America — Continuance in Control — Rea Magnet 50 Fed. Reg. 27501-01 (ICC served Jul. 3, 1985); RailAmerica Inc., et. al — Continuance in Control — Point Comfort and Northern Rwy. Co., Rockdale Sandow & Southern Railroad Company, The Massena Terminal Railroad Company, and Bauxite and Northern Railway Company, Docket No. FD 34758 (STB served Oct. 19, 2005).

traffic prospects were uncertain.⁴ Accordingly, A-USA decided that re-acquiring the subject rail assets from RSS to preserve the option of the restoration of rail service in the future was preferable to leaving that strategic determination to an unaffiliated rail carrier with interests of its own, and so A-USA reached terms to re-acquire the RSS rail assets through a designated non-carrier corporate affiliate, AESI.

After roughly a year of AESI ownership, the Line's future railroad traffic prospects remain uncertain. There is no current demand for rail service, and there are no apparent traffic prospects. Nevertheless, the land along the Line could prove suitable for prospective rail-dependent businesses, and retaining the track in place would promote such development. At the same time, A-USA believes that development of the lands surrounding the Line could be promoted just as easily (or better) by private carriage, and that converting the Line to unregulated private track by way of a Board-authorized abandonment offers greater flexibility. Moreover, in the event that A-USA and AESI were to sell the land and the rail assets that comprise the Line, it would aid in such an endeavor to avoid the regulatory complications of Board authorization, particularly if a prospective buyer were to be interested in acquiring the rail assets for private purposes and not in assuming a common carrier status by virtue of railroad line ownership. As such, abandonment of the Line might be the best way to preserve it for future reactivation, albeit in the form of non-Board-regulated private track.

As discussed below, abandonment of the Line satisfies the exemption criteria of 49 U.S.C. § 10502, and, accordingly, this Petition should be granted.

⁴ At the time that AESI invoked the Board's class exemption procedures to acquire the Line, it pointed out, and the Board subsequently noted, that the Line's future traffic prospects were uncertain at best. See AESI Notice at 1 ("AESI states that the Line is currently inactive and it is uncertain at what future point demand for rail service over the Line could again materialize to warrant restored rail operations").

I. IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER

Petitioner AESI is a Class III common carrier by virtue of its acquisition of the subject Board-regulated Line in 2018.

The complete name and address of AESI is:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.
Attention: Real Estate Department
201 Isabella St., Suite 500
Pittsburgh, PA 15212-5858

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE LINE THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS PETITION

The Line extends from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with Union Pacific Railroad Company (“UP”) at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas, a total of approximately six route miles. AESI does not know if the Line has any stations, but believes that it may include the stations of Marjorie and Sandow. The Line traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 76567 and 76577.

AESI has not undertaken a review of its files to determine whether any parcels may be subject to reversion in the event of a consummated abandonment, but it believes that it holds marketable title to all of the Line’s right-of-way.

Historically, Line has served predominantly to support railroad traffic to and from the Sandow Facility, which has become inactive, and that of independent customers whose shipments were related to Sandow Facility operations. The Sandow Facility has been closed permanently, all rail shipments on the Line have ended as of roughly 20 months ago, and AESI is unaware of any plans by a third party to commence shipping rail traffic via the Line.

III. JURISDICTION AND STATUTORY STANDARDS

The Board has jurisdiction over the proposed abandonment of the Line pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10903. A common carrier by rail such as AESI must obtain authority from the

Board under Section 10903 before abandoning a line of railroad. However, 49 U.S.C. § 10502 requires the Board to exempt a person, transaction or service from the statutory and regulatory requirements otherwise applicable to a rail carrier when the Board determines that:

(1) application of those requirements is not necessary to carry out the rail transportation policy of 49 U.S.C. § 10101; and (2) either (a) the transaction is of limited scope or (b) regulation is not needed to protect shippers from an abuse of market power. This abandonment petition meets the standards for an exemption.

IV. CRITERIA OF 49 U.S.C. § 10502

A. Detailed Scrutiny Under 49 U.S.C. § 10903 Is Not Necessary To Carry Out The Rail Transportation Policy Of 49 U.S.C. § 10101

Granting AESI an exemption to abandon the Line is consistent with the goals articulated in the national Rail Transportation Policy (“RTP”), 49 U.S.C. § 10101. By allowing AESI to avoid the expense of maintaining a line that generates no traffic or revenue, and, if it later proves appropriate, to liquidate the Line’s rail assets as unneeded for rail transportation, an exemption will encourage the honest and effective management of railroads and promote the development of an economically sound and efficient transportation system. See 49 U.S.C. §§ 10101(3), (4), (5) and (9).

The rail transportation policy also provides that the Board should minimize the need for federal regulatory control over the rail transportation system, expedite regulatory decisions and reduce barriers to exit. See 49 U.S.C. §§ 10101(2), (7), and (15). The statutory exemption procedure of Section 10502 obviates the need for the expensive and time-consuming processes attendant to a formal application proceeding under Section 10903. Reliance on the adequate and expeditious individual exemption procedures would minimize Board regulation of the abandonment, and it would free AESI to make decisions regarding the future disposition of

the Line without the need for additional Board regulatory oversight, all of which is in the furtherance of the RTP.

None of the other RTP criteria would be adversely affected. No rail service of any kind has been provided on the Line since early 2018, and so regulation would not affect shipper interests. Finally, abandonment will permit AESI the option to preserve the line as private trackage outside of the scope of Board regulation, will free AESI (or a future purchaser of the rail assets) to sell the Line to a third party without the need to undergo another Board authorization process, and will enable AESI or a future purchaser of the Line's assets to establish private carriage on the Line if future circumstances warrant.

B. The Transaction Is Of Limited Scope

The abandonment for which exemption is sought involves an unused, stub-ended line segment roughly six miles in length that formerly had been used in support of A-USA's Sandow Facility operations. No rail service has been provided on the Line for nearly two years. Under these circumstances, the proposed abandonment clearly is of limited scope.

C. Regulation Is Not Necessary To Protect Shippers From Market Power Abuse

Since this abandonment is of limited scope, AESI does not need to demonstrate that regulation is unnecessary to protect shippers from market power abuse, also. See 49 U.S.C. § 10502(a)(2). Even so, it is clear that this transaction will not and cannot subject shippers to any market power abuse.

There are no active shippers on the Line, and the last entities to make use of rail service over the Line did so in support of a corporate affiliate of AESI. There is no one that could be the target of any market power abuse. Fundamentally, there is simply no evidence to support the proposition that AESI possesses market power (it has none, as the owner of an

entirely inactive railroad line without any foreseeable traffic prospects), and there is no one that AESI would have reason, or ability, to subject to any such market power abuse, if it had.

V. LEVEL OF LABOR PROTECTION TO BE IMPOSED

In most abandonment proceedings, the Board would impose labor protective conditions under Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). However, where a railroad proposes to abandon its entire railroad system, as AESI is proposing to do here, the Board traditionally declines to impose labor protective conditions. See, e.g., Knox and Kane RR. Co.—Abandonment Exemption—McKean County, Pa., Docket AB 551 (Sub-No. 2X) (STB served July 24, 2015). It is appropriate in entire system abandonments for the Board to refrain from imposing labor protective conditions because there will be no remaining entity subject to the Board’s jurisdiction. In keeping with longstanding precedent, it is appropriate in this proceeding that no labor protective conditions be imposed.

VI. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW

In keeping with 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(a), 1105.8(a) and 1121.3(b), a combined Environmental and Historic Report (“Report”) is attached hereto as Exhibit D. AESI does not believe that the proposed abandonment will result in any significant environmental impact. Also, AESI has determined that the proposed abandonment will not result in any adverse impact to historic resources, as is reflected in the attached Historic Report. Although AESI has no immediate plans to salvage the Line, and the rail assets may be retained as private trackage for the foreseeable future, AESI recognizes that it must comply with any conditions to abandonment and/or salvage as the Board may impose upon it in granting this Petition.

WHEREFORE, AESI respectfully requests that the Board exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 the abandonment of the Line extending from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas, a total of approximately six route miles in Milam County, Texas.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Robert A. Wimbish
Bradon J. Smith
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606-3208
Office: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
Email: rwimbish@fletcher-sippel.com

**ATTORNEYS FOR ALCOA ENERGY
SERVICES, INC.**

Dated: November 21, 2019

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

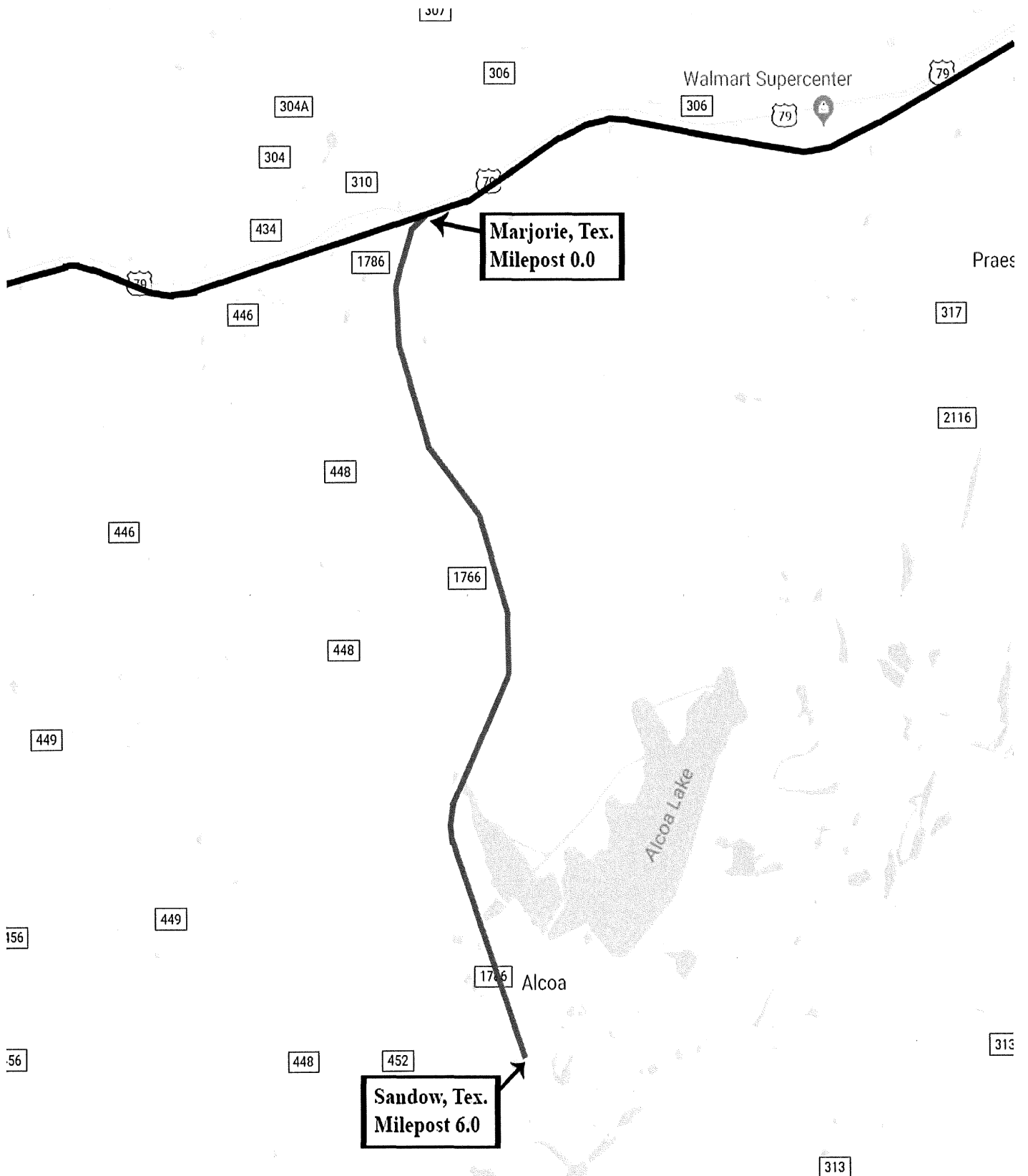
STB DOCKET NO. AB-1291X

**ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN MILAM COUNTY, TEX.**

EXHIBIT A

MAP

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.



**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-1291X

**ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN MILAM COUNTY, TEX.**

EXHIBIT B

DRAFT FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE

DO

FR-_____

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Docket No. AB-1291X

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. – Abandonment Exemption – In Milam County, Tex.

On November __, 2019, Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. (AESI) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. § 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 to abandon approximately 6.0 route miles of rail line in Milam County, Texas, extending from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie to milepost 6.0 at Sandow (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 76567 and 76577. AESI is not aware of any stations along the Line but believes that the Line may include the stations of Marjorie and Sandow. According to the petition, the Line is stub-ended and therefore not capable of handling overhead traffic.

AESI believes that it possesses fee title interest to the underlying right-of-way, and, as such, that there is no federally-granted right-of-way along the route. Any documentation in the railroad's possession regarding federally-granted right-of-way will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

Because AESI is abandoning its entire railroad system, AESI anticipates that the Board will not impose labor protective conditions. See, e.g., Knox and Kane RR. Co.—Abandonment Exemption—McKean County, Pa., Docket AB 551 (Sub-No. 2X) (STB served July 24, 2015).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by _____, 2015.

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by _____, 2019.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(b)(2) to acquire the line or to subsidize continued rail service will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer must be accompanied by a \$1,900 filing fee. See 49 C.F.R. § 1002.2(f)(25).

Any offer of financial assistance will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption.

All interested persons should be aware that following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use, if AESI should consent to the same.

Any request for a public use condition and any request for trail use/rail banking will be due no later than 20 days after notice of the filing of the petition for exemption is published in the Federal Register.

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB-1291X and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001, and (2) Robert A. Wimbish, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606. Replies to the petition are due on or before _____.

Persons seeking further information concerning the Board's abandonment procedures may contact the Surface Transportation Board or refer to the full abandonment and discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR Part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245-0295.

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by the Office of Environmental Analysis will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Any other persons who would like to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS) may contact the Office of Environmental Analysis. EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at “WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.”

Decided: _____.

By the Board, Allison C. Davis, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-1291X

**ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN MILAM COUNTY, TEX.**

EXHIBIT C

**CERTIFICATES OF SERVICE AND
PUBLICATION**

Certificate of Service

49 C.F.R. § 1152.60(d) – Notice

I certify that, in keeping with 49 C.F.R. § 1152.60(d), the following parties have been served with a copy of the foregoing abandonment petition for exemption as of the date of this filing:

Mr. Peter Espy
Director, Rail Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

MCMCTEA
ATTN: Railroads for National Defense
1 Soldier Way, Building 1900W
Scott AFB, IL 62225-5006

U.S. Department of Interior – National Park Service
Recreational Resources Assistance Division
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240-0001

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Chief of the Forest Service
4th Floor N.W., Yates Building
201 14th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

The Line is bereft of active rail users upon which to serve notice of the proposed abandonment.

November 21, 2019



Robert A. Wimbish
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION

I hereby certify that a "Notice of Intent to Discontinue Rail Service" was published in the form prescribed by the Surface Transportation Board for a petition for exemption (49 C.F.R. § 1105.12) on November 21, 2019 in the *Rockdale Reporter*, a newspaper of general circulation in Milam County, Texas, where the subject rail line is located.

November 21, 2019

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. A. Wimbish", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert A. Wimbish
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

STB DOCKET NO. AB-1291X

**ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
-- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION --
IN MILAM COUNTY, TEX.**

EXHIBIT D

**COMBINED ENVIRONMENTAL AND
HISTORIC REPORT**

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-1291X
ALCOA ENERGY SERVICES, INC.
– ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION –
IN MILAM COUNTY, TEXAS

ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORIC REPORT

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. (“AESI”) submits this combined Environmental and Historic Report (the “Report”) in compliance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8. Supporting correspondence and certifications are appended. As explained herein, the proposed abandonment would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment or affect the conservation of energy resources.¹

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT - 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)

1. Proposed Action and Alternatives. AESI intends to file a petition for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas (the “Line”). The Line has been inactive since February of 2018. AESI acquired the Line from the Rockdale Southern & Sandow Railroad Company (“RSSR”) in late 2018.² AESI now desires to end common carrier service on the Line and remove it from the scope of the Board’s regulatory

¹ See generally 49 C.F.R. § 1105.5(a) (2017) (incorporating “significant” standard of 40 C.F.R. § 1508.27).

² *Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. – Acquisition Exemption – Rockdale Southern & Sandow Railroad Company*, Docket No. FD 36257 (STB served Dec. 12, 2018).

oversight, but it also intends to preserve the track assets into the foreseeable future for the possible restoration of service as private track, unencumbered by Board regulation. The abandonment petition for exemption will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart G.

No alternatives to the proposed abandonment appear reasonable, since the Line has been inactive for roughly 19 months, and there is no foreseeable prospect that a need for rail service would re-emerge. The only alternative is retention of the subject railroad property as a federally-regulated, but dormant, railroad line, wherein AESI is required unnecessarily to provide common carrier service.

Map showing the Line is attached hereto as Appendix A.

2. Transportation System. AESI does not anticipate that existing regional or local transportation systems or patterns will be significantly affected by the proposed abandonment, but has requested input from Milam County and the Central Texas Council of Governments (“CTCOG”). Appendix B, Milam County correspondence; Appendix C, CTCOG correspondence. Milam County has not responded; CTCOG has indicated that it does not anticipate any impact on transportation systems or patterns.³ Appendix C-1. Since the Line is inactive, abandonment would not result in the diversion of traffic to other modes. AESI also has contacted the Texas Department of Transportation Rail Division (“TxDOT”). Appendix D. TxDOT has requested that all public grade crossings be restored upon cessation of rail operations. Appendix D-1. However, because AESI intends to preserve the subject trackage as

³ The CTCOG correspondence was received after the circulation of the Environmental Report for interested agency review.

an unregulated asset, TxDOT's condition would appear inapplicable absent salvage. Also, there do not appear to be any public grade crossings along the Line. Appendix A.

3. Land Use.

(i) AESI does not believe that the proposed abandonment would be inconsistent with regional and/or local land use plans, but it awaits comment from CTCOG on the issue. The National Geodetic Survey ("NOAA") has been contacted, also, but has not responded. Appendix E.

(ii) The Natural Resource Conservation Service ("NRCS") has been contacted. Appendix F. AESI has received no comments from NRCS to date.

(iii) The Texas General Land Office has confirmed that the Line is not within a designated Coastal Management Area. Accordingly, the proposed abandonment will not affect any land or water uses in such an area or result in any coastal impacts. Appendix G. AESI also solicited comments from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") to determine whether the proposed abandonment would have any bearing upon applicable federal, state and local water quality standards. Appendices H and I. TCEQ has advised that it does not anticipate any inconsistency with applicable federal, state, and local water quality standards. Appendix I-1.

(iv) No alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 for the Line would be suitable at this juncture, because AESI intends for the foreseeable future to retain the trackage that comprises the line, albeit as private track.

4. Energy.

(i) The proposed abandonment will not have any effect on the transportation of energy resources.

(ii) The movement and/or recovery of recyclable commodities will not be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment.

(iii) The abandonment will not result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency. No rail freight traffic currently moves to or from points on the Line, and, thus, there will be no changes in existing transportation patterns or energy usage as a result of the proposed abandonment.

(iv) Not applicable. The abandonment of the Line will not cause the diversion of more than 1,000 rail carloads per year or an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year to motor carriers.

5. Air.

(i) Not applicable. The Line is inactive. The abandonment will not result in (A) a minimum increase in rail traffic of 100% or eight trains per day on any segment of rail line; (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100%; or (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles per day on any road segment.

(ii) Not applicable. TCEQ has advised that Milam County is an attainment/unclassified area for National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Appendix I-1. Abandonment of the Line will not result in traffic increases exceeding the thresholds at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(5)(ii)(A), (B) or (C).

(iii) Not applicable. AESI has contacted and requested comments from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 and TCEQ. Appendices H and I. TCEQ indicated in did not anticipate any impact on air quality. Appendix I-1.

6. Noise. Not applicable. As indicated above, none of the thresholds identified in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(5)(i) will be exceeded as a result of the abandonment.

7. Safety.

(i) The proposed action will have no adverse effect upon public health or safety. The approximate 6-mile line has only private and utility crossings.

(ii) Not applicable. The proposed abandonment will have no effect on the transportation of hazardous materials.

(iii) There are no known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way of the Line.

8. Biological Resources.

(i) No critical habitat will be destroyed, altered or affected as a result of the proposed abandonment, and AESI does not believe that any endangered or threatened species are present in the area or would be adversely affected. AESI has requested comments from the TCEQ and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Appendices I and J, respectively.

(ii) Similarly, AESI has no reason to believe that any wildlife sanctuaries or refuges will be affected, based on its review of Appendix A and absent any further comment from conservation agencies. Appendix J. AESI has also contacted and requested comments from the National Park Service, as set forth in Appendix K. No response has been received to date.

9. Water.

(i) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 has been contacted. Appendix H. TCEQ has also been contacted. Appendix I. The TCEQ Office of Water does not anticipate significant long-term impacts, and absent AESI plans to salvage the Line, no removal effects are anticipated. Appendix I-1. The Texas General Land Office Coastal Division has also been contacted but has not responded. Appendix G.

(ii) The Army Corps of Engineers (the “Corps”) has been contacted to determine if the proposed abandonment requires permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, though no salvage is currently contemplated. Appendix L. The Corps has not responded. In addition, AESI is unaware of the proposed abandonment affecting any 100-year floodplain.

(iii) AESI does not anticipate the discharge of any pollutants in relation to its proposed abandonment. Additionally, no material will be disposed of into waterways as part of the abandonment absent plans to salvage the Line. Accordingly, AESI concludes that no permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act are required.

* * * * *

HISTORIC REPORT - 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d)

1. Map. A map of the Line is attached hereto as Appendix A.
2. Description of Line. AESI intends to file a petition for exemption with the STB to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of stub-ended railroad from milepost 0.0 at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas (the “Line”). The Line traverses a generally rural area of consistent, moderate elevation between Marjorie, in the north, and the end of the Line Sandow, in the south. There is a single railroad maintenance facility on the north end of the Line near the current interchange point with Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, immediately south of U.S. 79. The maintenance facility was erected in approximately 1952.
3. Photographs. An image of the maintenance facility is attached. Appendix M.

4. Information on Structures. Aside from the maintenance facility, no other structures exist on the Line.

5. History of Operations. The subject railroad assets were, until fairly recently, owned by the Rockdale Sandow & Southern Railroad Company (“RSSR”), which, until 2005, was a holding of Alcoa, Inc., 50 Fed. Reg. 27501-01, Aluminum Company of America — Continuance in Control — Rea Magnet (ICC served Jul. 3, 1985). RailAmerica, Inc. (“RailAmerica”) acquired control of RSSR in 2005. RailAmerica Inc., et. al — Continuance in Control — Point Comfort and Northern Rwy. Co., Rockdale Sandow & Southern Railroad Company, The Massena Terminal Railroad Company, and Bauxite and Northern Railway Company, Docket No. FD 34758 (STB served Oct. 19, 2005). Fortress Investment Group LLC obtained control of RailAmerica assets in 2006, including RSSR, and, in turn, control of RSSR (and other railroads) was transferred to Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. (“G&W”). Fortress Investment Group LLC et. al. — Control Exemption — RailAmerica, Inc. et al. FD 34972 (STB served Dec. 22, 2006); Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. — Control — RailAmerica, Inc., et al. Docket No. FD 35654 (STB served Dec. 19, 2012). Most recently, AESI purchased the Line from RSSR. Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Acquisition Exemption — Rockdale, Sandow & Southern Railroad Company, Docket No. FD 36257 (STB served Dec. 14, 2018).

6. Engineering Documents. AESI will provide copies of any engineering documents in its possession for the maintenance facility if so requested.

7. Historic Criteria. AESI has contacted and given notice of the proposed abandonment to the Texas Historical Commission (“THC”). In preparing to circulate this Report for consultation, counsel for AESI noted the above-referenced maintenance facility (constructed

circa 1952). Prior correspondence to the State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”) seeking input for this Report mistakenly indicated that there were “no structures” on the line. Appendix N. AESI will rectify this oversight by calling the facility to the attention of the SHPO as part of the circulation of the subject Report to consulting agencies. Absent further information from THC, AESI believes that no railroad structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It also would not appear to be any archaeological resources or other unknown historic properties in the area.

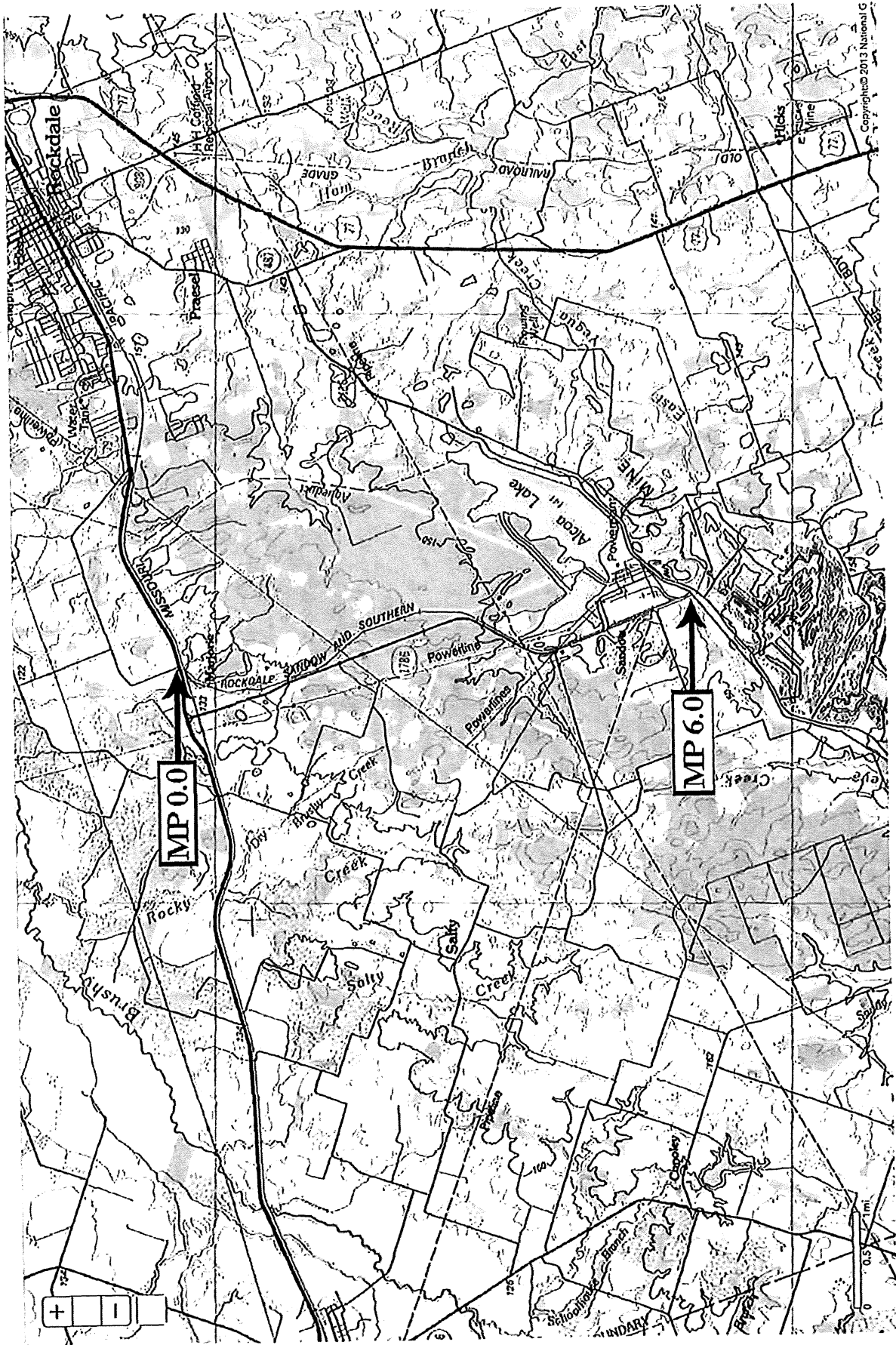
8. Ground Disturbances. Based on available information, AESI does not believe that there are archaeological resources in the area. Access to the Line is generally good.

APPENDIX A

Docket No. AB 1291 (Sub. - No 1X)

Alcoa Energy Services Inc. -

Abandonment Exemption - Milam County Texas



APPENDIX B

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Hon. Steve Young
Milam County
Milam County Courthouse
1st Floor
102 S. Fannin Ave.
Cameron TX 76250

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Hon. Steve Young:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

The Petition will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart G. A map showing the location of the Line is attached for your reference. In accordance with the STB's environmental regulations, 49 C.F.R. § 1105, AESI is advising you of the proposed abandonment so that you may assist us in identifying any potential effects it may have on the following (to the extent they are within your area of expertise or authority):

1. Regional and/or local use plans;
2. Regional or local transportation systems and patterns, including alternative transportation modes;
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4. Air emissions and noise levels;
5. Bodies of water and overall water quality under applicable federal, state or local standards;
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7. Endangered or threatened species and critical habitats;
8. Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges and national or state parks or forests;
9. Prime agricultural land, and soil and natural resource conservation;
10. Existing or potential safety hazards;
11. Coastal Zone Management Areas; and

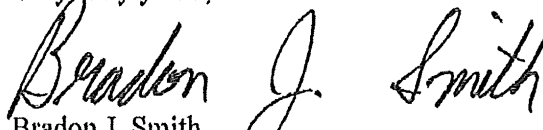
FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

12. The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the limited nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse environmental effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We request a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report which will be prepared in connection with the Petition in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X) and be sent to the undersigned.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before AESI's petition is filed at the STB. If you have any questions or need additional information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at 312-252-1500. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradon J. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX C

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

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(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Central Texas Council of Governments
PO Box 729
Belton, Texas 76513

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

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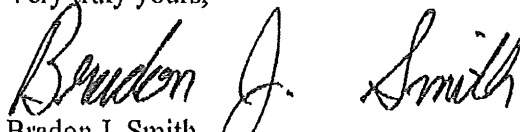
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10. Existing or potential safety hazards;
11. Coastal Zone Management Areas; and
12. The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

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Very truly yours,


Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX C-1



Uryan Nelson
Division Director, CTCOG
2180 North Main Street, P.O Box 729
Belton, TX 76513

Brandon J. Smith
Attorney
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606

Re: Docket No. AB-1291X

Dear Mr. Smith:

After a review of the information received regarding docket no. AB-1291X, the Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) does not anticipate that transportation systems or patterns will be significantly impacted by the proposed rail line abandonment.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and please contact me at 254-770-2373 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Uryan Nelson

cc: Steve Young, Milam County Judge

APPENDIX D

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

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Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Texas Department of Transportation
Rail Division
125 E. 11th St.
Austin, TX 78701-2483

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

The Petition will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart G. A map showing the location of the Line is attached for your reference. In accordance with the STB's environmental regulations, 49 C.F.R. § 1105, AESI is advising you of the proposed abandonment so that you may assist us in identifying any potential effects it may have on the following (to the extent they are within your area of expertise or authority):

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10. Existing or potential safety hazards;
11. Coastal Zone Management Areas; and
12. The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Because of the limited nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse environmental effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We request a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report which will be prepared in connection with the Petition in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X) and be sent to the undersigned.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before AESI's petition is filed at the STB. If you have any questions or need additional information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at 312-252-1500. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,


Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure



APPENDIX D-1

Texas Department of Transportation

125 EAST 11TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 | 512.463.8588 | WWW.TXDOT.GOV

September 13, 2019

Brandon J. Smith
Fletcher & Sippel, LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

RE: Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. – Abandonment Exemption – In Milam County, Texas

Dear Mr. Smith,

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has reviewed your August 30, 2019 letter regarding the proposed abandonment of 6 miles of railroad line in Milam County. TxDOT understands that there are no active shippers on the line. If the abandonment is approved, TxDOT requests all public at grade crossings on the line be removed and the road service restored within one year of abandonment.

If you have additional questions or would like to like to further discuss this matter, please contact me at (512) 416-2056 or Peter.Espy@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Peter Espy
Rail Division Director

cc: Marc D. Williams, P.E., Deputy Executive Director, TxDOT
Misty Barham, Associate General Counsel, TxDOT

OUR VALUES: People • Accountability • Trust • Honesty

OUR MISSION: Through collaboration and leadership, we deliver a safe, reliable, and integrated transportation system that enables the movement of people and goods.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

APPENDIX E

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
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Fax: (312) 252-2400

www.fletcher-sippel.com

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

National Geodetic Survey Information Services
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
NOAA Ocean Service
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

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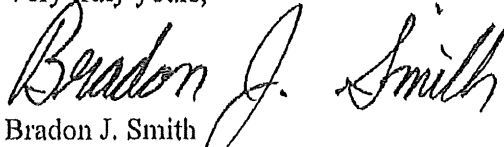
FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

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Very truly yours,


Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX F

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

United States Soil Conservation Service
101 South Main Street
Temple, TX 76501

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

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Very truly yours,

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Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX G

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

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bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

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Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Texas General Land Office
Coastal Management Program
PO Box 12873
Austin, TX 78711-2873

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

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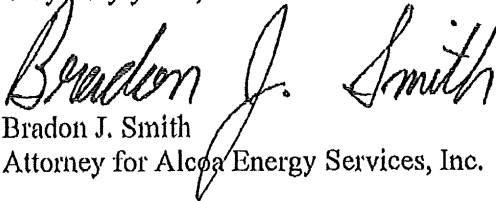
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FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

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Very truly yours,


Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX H

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

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Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Regional Administrator
EPA Region 6 Main Office
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

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Very truly yours,

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Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX I

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

Phone: (312) 252-1500

Fax: (312) 252-2400

www.fletcher-sippel.com

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Attn: Executive Director
MC 109
CEQ
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

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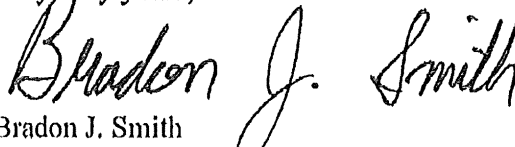
FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

12. The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the limited nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse environmental effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We request a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report which will be prepared in connection with the Petition in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X) and be sent to the undersigned.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before AESI's petition is filed at the STB. If you have any questions or need additional information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at 312-252-1500. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,


Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX I-1

Jon Niermann, *Chairman*
Emily Lindley, *Commissioner*
Toby Baker, *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

September 16, 2019

Brandon J. Smith
Attorney
Fletcher and Sippel LLC
29 N Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Via: E-mail

Re: TCEQ NEPA Request #2019-236. Railroad abandonment exemption. Milam County.

Dear Mr. Smith

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has reviewed the above-referenced project and offers the following comments:

In accordance with the General Conformity regulations in 40 CFR Part 93, this proposed action was reviewed for air quality impact. The proposed action is located in Milam County, which is currently designated as attainment/unclassified for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for all six criteria air pollutants. General conformity requirements do not apply.

The Office of Water does not anticipate significant long term environmental impacts from this project as long as construction and waste disposal activities associated with it are completed in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal environmental permits, statutes, and regulations. We recommend that the applicant take necessary steps to ensure that best management practices are used to control runoff from construction sites to prevent detrimental impact to surface and ground water.

Any debris or waste disposal should be at an appropriately authorized disposal facility.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please contact the agency NEPA coordinator at (512) 239-3500 or NEPA@tceq.texas.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Vise".

Ryan Vise,
Division Director
External Relations

APPENDIX J

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Southwest Region
P.O. Box 1306
Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

The Petition will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart G. A map showing the location of the Line is attached for your reference. In accordance with the STB's environmental regulations, 49 C.F.R. § 1105, AESI is advising you of the proposed abandonment so that you may assist us in identifying any potential effects it may have on the following (to the extent they are within your area of expertise or authority):

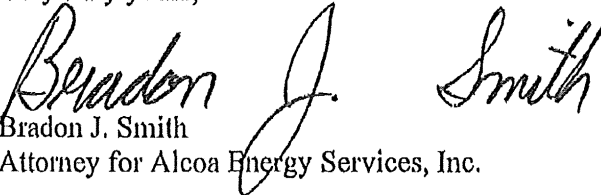
1. Regional and/or local use plans;
2. Regional or local transportation systems and patterns, including alternative transportation modes;
3. Energy consumption and efficiency;
4. Air emissions and noise levels;
5. Bodies of water and overall water quality under applicable federal, state or local standards;
6. Designated wetlands and 100-year old flood plains;
7. Endangered or threatened species and critical habitats;
8. Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges and national or state parks or forests;
9. Prime agricultural land, and soil and natural resource conservation;
10. Existing or potential safety hazards;
11. Coastal Zone Management Areas; and
12. The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Because of the limited nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse environmental effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We request a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report which will be prepared in connection with the Petition in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X) and be sent to the undersigned.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before AEST's petition is filed at the STB. If you have any questions or need additional information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at 312-252-1500. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,


Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX K

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

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(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Kate Hammond, Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
12795 Alameda Parkway
Denver, CO 80225

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Ms. Hammond:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

The Petition will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart G. A map showing the location of the Line is attached for your reference. In accordance with the STB's environmental regulations, 49 C.F.R. § 1105, AESI is advising you of the proposed abandonment so that you may assist us in identifying any potential effects it may have on the following (to the extent they are within your area of expertise or authority):

1. Regional and/or local use plans;
2. Regional or local transportation systems and patterns, including alternative transportation modes;
3. Energy consumption and efficiency;
4. Air emissions and noise levels;
5. Bodies of water and overall water quality under applicable federal, state or local standards;
6. Designated wetlands and 100-year old flood plains;
7. Endangered or threatened species and critical habitats;
8. Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges and national or state parks or forests;
9. Prime agricultural land, and soil and natural resource conservation;
10. Existing or potential safety hazards;
11. Coastal Zone Management Areas; and

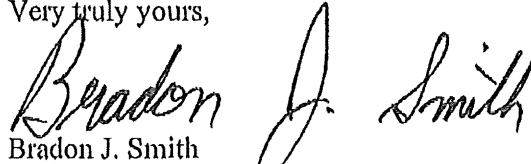
FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

12. The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Because of the limited nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse environmental effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We request a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report which will be prepared in connection with the Petition in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X) and be sent to the undersigned.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before AESI's petition is filed at the STB. If you have any questions or need additional information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at 312-252-1500. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradon J. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

APPENDIX L

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

Phone: (312) 252-1500
Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

BRADON J. SMITH
(312) 252-1516
bsmith@fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

US Army Corps of Engineers
Southwestern Division
1100 Commerce Street, Suite 831
Dallas, TX 75242-1317

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Sir/Madam:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow. There are currently no active shippers on the Line.

The Petition will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart G. A map showing the location of the Line is attached for your reference. In accordance with the STB's environmental regulations, 49 C.F.R. § 1105, AESI is advising you of the proposed abandonment so that you may assist us in identifying any potential effects it may have on the following (to the extent they are within your area of expertise or authority):

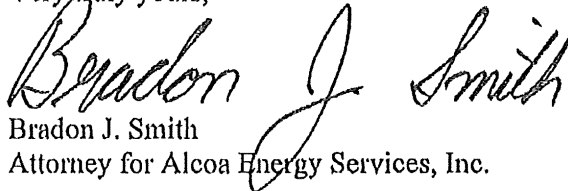
1. Regional and/or local use plans;
2. Regional or local transportation systems and patterns, including alternative transportation modes;
3. Energy consumption and efficiency;
4. Air emissions and noise levels;
5. Bodies of water and overall water quality under applicable federal, state or local standards;
6. Designated wetlands and 100-year old flood plains;
7. Endangered or threatened species and critical habitats;
8. Wildlife sanctuaries or refuges and national or state parks or forests;
9. Prime agricultural land, and soil and natural resource conservation;
10. Existing or potential safety hazards;
11. Coastal Zone Management Areas; and
12. The need for permits under Sections 402 or 404 of the Clean Water Act.

FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC

Because of the limited nature of the proposed action, we foresee no adverse environmental effects. Nevertheless, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We request a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report which will be prepared in connection with the Petition in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X) and be sent to the undersigned.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before AESI's petition is filed at the STB. If you have any questions or need additional information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at 312-252-1500. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,


Bradon J. Smith
Attorney for Alcoa Energy Services, Inc.

Enclosure

Marjorie, Tex. Rail Maintenance Facility

Write a description for your map.

Legend



APPENDIX M

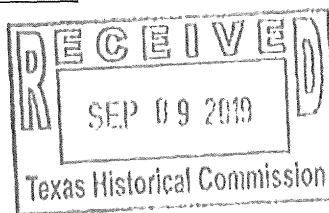
APPENDIX N

FLETCHER & SIPPET LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208

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Fax: (312) 252-2400
www.fletcher-sippel.com

August 30, 2019

Justin Kockritz
Lead Project Reviewer
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

NO HISTORIC
PROPERTIES AFFECTED
PROJECT MAY PROCEED
by *A-201 Justin Kockritz*
or Mark Wolfe
Texas Historical Commission
9/20/2019

Re: **Docket AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X)**
Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Milam
County, Texas

Dear Mr. Kockritz:

Alcoa Energy Services, Inc. ("AESI") plans to file a petition (the "Petition") for exemption with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon approximately 6.0 miles of railroad from milepost 0.0 at a point of connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Marjorie, Texas, to milepost 6.0 at Sandow, Texas ("the Line"). The Line is stub-ended track leading to the Alcoa Corporation facility at Sandow; there is currently no other shipper on the Line.

The Petition will be filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart G. A map showing the location of the Line is attached for your reference. There appear to be no structures on the Line. Moreover, AESI intends to leave the track in place if authorized to abandon the Line, due to the prospect of the line being converted to non-common carrier rail service. Notwithstanding the lack of apparent impact on any historical resource, we would appreciate your review and any comments you may wish to offer. We request a written response as soon as possible so that we may include it in the Environmental/Historic Report that will be prepared in connection with the Petition in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7. Any written comments should reference Docket No. AB-1291 (Sub.-No. 1X) and be sent to the undersigned.

A copy of the Environmental/Historic Report will be forwarded to you at least twenty days before AESI's petition is filed at the STB. If you have any questions or need