

**SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN  
DOCKET NO. AB 414 (SUB-NO. 7X)**

April 28, 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**

(X) **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

In this proceeding, the Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd. (IAIS) filed a notice under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 seeking approval authority to abandon a 1.82 mile portion of rail line in Pottawattamie County, Iowa. The Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on April 1, 2014 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. No comments were received during comment period, and OEA issued a Final EA on April 21, 2014.

On April 23, 2014, OEA received the attached late-filed comment from the National Geodetic Survey (NGS). NGS identified one geodetic station marker in the area of the proposed abandonment, and has requested notification at least 90 days in advance of any activities that would disturb or destroy this marker in order to plan for its relocation. Accordingly, we recommend that the railroad consult with NGS and notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.

**Conclusion**

In addition to the two existing previously recommended conditions in items 1 and 2 below, OEA recommends that the following new environmental condition in item 3 below be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. The Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd. (IAIS) shall consult with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) prior to initiating salvage operations to determine what, if any, approvals or permits may be needed to: protect any rare species or significant natural communities and streams and other flowing waterbodies, and provide best management practices. If approvals or permits are needed, IAIS shall comply with the reasonable requirements of IDNR.

2. IAIS shall consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Rock Island District prior to initiating salvage activities for potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, and shall comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps.
3. IAIS shall consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) and notify NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.

OEA concludes that if the above conditions are imposed, the proposed action would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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*Simon*

#E1-20447



**NGS Response, STB Docket AB-414 (SUB NO. 007X)**

Simon Monroe to: Thomas J. Litwiler

04/23/2014 09:33 AM

Cc: Surface Transportation Board, Lucy Hall, Simon Monroe

Thank you for sharing your railroad abandonment environmental report for  
OAKLAND, Pottawattamie County, IOWA.

Approximately 01 geodetic survey marks may be located in the area  
described. These marks may or may not be disturbed.

If marks will be disturbed by the abandonment, [THE RAILROAD] shall  
consult with the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to  
beginning salvage activities that will disturb, or destroy any geodetic  
station

marks are described on the attached file. Additional advice is provided  
at

<http://geodesy.noaa.gov/marks/railroads/>

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