

E1-2829  
CD

STATE OF MISSOURI  
**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Matt Blunt, Governor • Doyle Childers, Director

[www.dnr.mo.gov](http://www.dnr.mo.gov)

January 8, 2007

Surface Transportation Board  
Section of Environmental Analysis  
1925 K Street  
Washington D.C. 20423

Re: Docket Nos. AB 993 and 1001X

Dear Sirs:

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has completed a review of this request to abandon rail service. We understand that the abandonment is permissible under the Surface Transportation Board's "two years out of service" procedures.

The department has identified no environmental concerns related to this potential action to discontinue operating rights on this section of rail line. This was also the conclusion of the environmental assessment report from 1983 that went further and indicated that the environment would benefit with cessation of railroad operations. Our principal concerns would arise in event that removal and salvage activities of rail infrastructure is undertaken at a later time. Our concerns at that time would relate to the residuals from the railroad operations (i.e., creosote track ties, engine maintenance areas). The department anticipates that any subsequent removal and salvage operations would include appropriate safeguards to address the following environmental concerns.

- There may be lead and asbestos contamination associated with structures such as bridges. The department recommends an appropriate preliminary inspection, notification of demolition regardless of the presence of lead or asbestos, and proper handling of all contaminated materials.
- There may be previously unidentified hazardous waste or other materials from spills, etc. especially near roundhouses, loading, and switch areas. There may be storage areas with above and below ground storage tanks. The department recommends that all such sites be inspected for contamination and any sites found be closed properly.
- There are best practices for the disposal of all demolition materials. There will be railroad ties have been chemically treated that will require proper handling and disposal. The department encourages recycling or reusing these materials when possible and ensuring that all solid waste is disposed consistent with all environmental requirements.

Surface Transportation Board

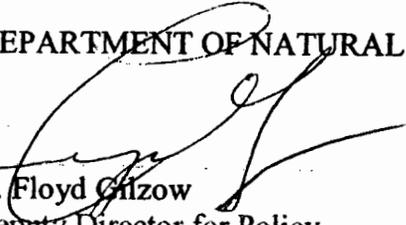
January 8, 2007

Page 2

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on this project. If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact Mr. Robert Stout in my office at 573-751-7402. The address for correspondence is Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



H. Floyd Gilzow  
Deputy Director for Policy

HFG:rsj

c: Mr. Charles H. Montagne  
Attorney at Law  
425 NW 162nd Street  
Seattle WA 98177