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BAKER & MILLER PLLC

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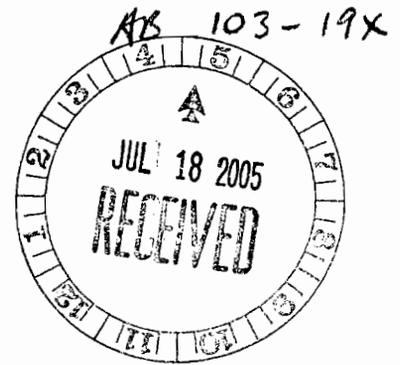
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WILLIAM A. MULLINS

(202) 663-7823 (Direct Dial)

July 18, 2005

HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Director, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket No. AB-103 (Sub-No. 19X)
The Kansas City Southern Railway Company-- Abandonment Exemption
-- Line In Springhill, Webster Parish, LA

Dear Ms. Rutson:

On June 29, a copy of the Environmental and Historic Report ("Report") regarding KCSR's intent to file, on or about July 22, 2005, a Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50, Subpart F, seeking to abandon 1.12 miles of railroad track located in Springhill, Webster Parish, Louisiana, running from milepost 48.48 (approximately 200 feet south of Vine Street) to milepost 49.60 (slightly south of Gaisser Street). Exhibit A to the Report contained copies of a June 23, 2005 letter that KCSR had sent to various consulting agencies seeking their input on the proposed KCSR action.

Attached hereto is the original of the June 23rd letter sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Louisiana Field Office seeking their input and consultation. The original June 23 letter has been stamped by the Acting Supervisor of the Louisiana Field Office with a notation that the proposed KCSR abandonment would not have any adverse effects on any endangered plants or animals. You are being sent this original document with its notation for inclusion in your records in the above mentioned proceeding. If you have any questions concerning this proposed abandonment, please contact me at (202) 663-7823.

Sincerely,

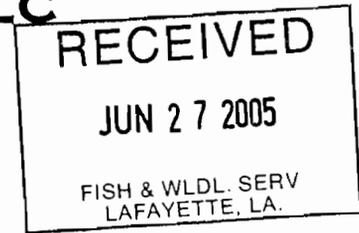
William A. Mullins

Enclosures

4-7-05-1219

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This project has been reviewed for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). The project, as proposed, Will have no effect on those resources is not likely to adversely affect those resources. This finding fulfills the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

June 23, 2005

Russell Watson, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Ecological Services Field Office
646 Cajundome Boulevard, Suite 400
Lafayette, LA 70506

[Signature]
Acting Supervisor
Louisiana Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Date: *[Signature]* July 16, 2005

RE: *The Kansas City Southern Railway Company-- Abandonment Exemption - Line In Springhill, Webster Parish, La*
STB Docket No. AB-103 (Sub-No. 19X)

To Consulting Agencies:

On or about July 22, 2005, The Kansas City Southern Railway Company ("KCSR") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50, Subpart F, seeking to abandon 1.12 miles of railroad track located in Springhill, Webster Parish, Louisiana, running from milepost 48.48 (approximately 200 feet south of Vine Street) to milepost 49.60 (slightly south of Gaisser Street)(the "Line"). The Line traverses through United States Postal Zip Code 71075. A map that delineates the proposed project is attached as Exhibit 1.

Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. §1105, KCSR will prepare and file an environmental and historic report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and historic effects. In preparation of these reports, KCSR is seeking your input and comment. At this time and based on information in KCSR's possession, KCSR does not anticipate any adverse environmental or historic effects.¹ Likewise, based on known information

¹ The rail, ties and other track materials were previously removed from the Line. KCSR believes this may have occurred when the track on the adjoining segment was salvaged to create a trail, following the Surface Transportation Board's approval of that segment for abandonment. See *The Kansas City Southern Railway Company-Abandonment Exemption-In Webster Parish, LA*, STB Docket No. AB-103 (Sub-No. 13X) (served June 12, 1998). The right-of-way of the Line, however, remains under KCSR ownership and KCSR continues to have a common carrier obligation over the Line. Removal of the rail and track materials from the Line occurred without

BAKER & MILLER PLLC

June 23, 2005

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in KCSR's possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

If you have any information regarding the environmental and historic impacts of the proposed abandonment that you desire to provide to KCSR before issuance of the environmental and historic reports, please provide them to KCSR's representative by mail at: William A. Mullins, Esq., Baker & Miller, PLLC, 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20037; by FAX: (202) 663-7849; or by e-mail: wmullins@bakerandmiller.com, or by TEL: (202) 663-7823.

Regardless of whether or not you provide any comments at this time, you will be provided with a copy of the environmental and historic report at least 21 days before KCSR files its Notice of Exemption. You will be given an opportunity to provide comment on those reports at that time. Those reports and any comments that you provide at that time will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please review the regulations, contact me, or the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis ("SEA"), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423-0001; TEL: (202) 565-1545.

Sincerely,



William A. Mullins

Enclosure

cc: Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA)
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

any intent on KCSR's part to abandon the Line.