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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN STB DOCKET NO. AB-882~~x~~ and STB
DOCKET NO. AB 884~~x~~

June 4, 2008

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

Notice of Exemption Petition for Exemption Regulated Abandonment

NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

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SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on May 2, 2008, for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended two environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Comments on the EA

SEA received two comments after issuance of the EA.

1. In a letter 19, 2008, Mr. James Savage, Attorney representing Applicant (City of New Brighton), states that the City of New Brighton has retained Ms. Carole Zeillie, Landscape Research, as its historical consultant.
2. In a letter dated May 20, 2008, Mr. Lawrence Zdon, Senior Engineer Specialist, Stormwater Section, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), confirms that the City of New Brighton has consulted regarding the hazardous materials remediation. Furthermore, the MPCA states "...that the City of New Brighton may advise SEA that hazardous materials remediation is being performed under MPCA oversight...which includes the line of rail proposed for abandonment..."

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, SEA recommends that environmental condition number 1 be removed. However, SEA recommends that environmental condition number 2 be imposed on any decision granting abandonment authority.

If the above condition is imposed, SEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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