

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- abandonment:** The discontinuance of service on a rail line segment and the salvaging and/or the removal of railroad-related facilities for reuse, sale, and/or disposal.
- Acquisition:** The proposal by CSX, NS, and Conrail to acquire control of Conrail's assets and its basic railroad operations.
- active warning devices:** Traffic control devices that give positive notice to highway users of the approach or presence of a train. These devices may include a flashing red light signal (a device which, when activated, displays red lights flashing alternately), a bell (a device which, when activated, provides an audible warning, usually used with a flashing red light signal), automatic gates (a mechanism added to flashing red light signals to provide an arm that can lower across the lanes of the roadway), and a cantilever (a structure equipped with flashing red light signals and extending over one or more lanes of traffic).
- Advanced Civil Speed Enforcement System (ACSES):** A supplement to the Automatic Cab Signal (ACS) and Automatic Train Control (ATC) systems currently in place within the Northeast Corridor (NEC), ACSES uses a series of transponders to communicate location and other factors to passing trains whose on-board computers utilize the information to achieve system function. These functions include: (1) civil speed enforcement; (2) temporary speed enforcement, including protection of roadway workers; and (3) enforcement of positive stop at interlocking home signals and Control Points (CPs).

adverse environmental impact:	A negative effect, resulting from the implementation of a proposed action, that serves to degrade or diminish an aspect of human or natural resources.
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP):	An independent Federal agency charged with advising the President and Congress on historic preservation matters and administering the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
air-brake test:	A test made prior to train departure, required by Federal Railroad Administration regulations and by railroad rules to ensure that a train's air-brake system is functioning as intended and that certain devices are within prescribed tolerances and physical parameters.
Allied Rail Unions (ARU):	A group of unions representing railroad employees, including the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, and the Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employees.
Applicants:	CSX Corporation and CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSX), Norfolk Southern Railway Company and Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS), and Conrail Inc. and Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail).
Application:	A formal filing with the Surface Transportation Board related to railroad mergers, acquisitions, constructions, or abandonments. Applications may be either Primary Applications or Inconsistent and Responsive (IR) Applications. See <i>Primary Application</i> and <i>Inconsistent and Responsive (IR) Application</i> .

Area of Potential Effect(s) (AoPE):	The geographic area surrounding a rail activity where an individual (or resource) or group of individuals (or resources) could likely experience adverse environmental effects. For this Final EIS, where applicable, the different technical disciplines determined their own specific definitions of this term for their individual technical disciplines.
attainment area:	An area that EPA has classified as complying with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards specified under the Clean Air Act.
authorized speed:	Maximum permitted speed for a specific train at a specific location, taking into account the prevailing weather conditions (for example, restrictions due to heavy rain, extreme heat or cold).
Automatic Block System (ABS):	A series of railroad signals that indicate track occupancy in the block (length of track of defined limits) ahead and govern the use of a consecutive set of blocks by a train. These signals include wayside track signals and cab signals (signals displayed in the locomotive cab instead of, or in addition to, wayside track signal displays), or both. This system combines automatic detection of train position with control of signals.
Automatic Train Control (ATC):	A system that has components installed on both trains and tracks that, when working together, will cause the train brakes to apply automatically if the engineer fails to respond to a condition requiring train speed to be reduced.
Best Management Practice (BMP):	Technique that various parties (for example, the construction industry) use to provide protection from adverse impacts to the environment. The Board may designate these techniques as mitigation measures.

block group:	A small population area that the U.S. Census Bureau uses to measure and record demographic characteristics. The population of a block group typically ranges from 600 to 3,000 people and is designed to reflect homogeneous living conditions, economic status, and population characteristics. Block group boundaries follow visible and identifiable features, such as roads, canals, railroads, and above-ground high-tension power lines.
block swapping:	The process of moving groups of cars with a common destination (called “blocks”) from one train to another.
Board:	The Surface Transportation Board, the licensing agency for the proposed Conrail Acquisition.
bulletins:	Documents addressed to train crews and other operating employees specifying temporary or local operating rules and restrictions.
cab signaling:	System that provides signal indications in the locomotive cab instead of, or in addition to, wayside signal displays.
carload:	A unit of measure used to describe commodities transported on a railroad typically in a boxcar, tank car, flat car, hopper car, or gondola.
centralized traffic control system:	A signal system that allows for the movement of trains in either direction on designated tracks at the maximum authorized speed, in accordance with the wayside or cab signals or both.
census tract:	Small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county containing between 2,500 and 8,000 persons. The U.S. Bureau of Census designs census tracts to reflect homogeneous living conditions, economic status, and population characteristics.

Clean Air Act (Clean Air Act Amendments):

The Clean Air Act of 1970 and the subsequent amendments, including the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671g); the primary Federal law that protects the nation's air resources. This act establishes a comprehensive set of standards, planning processes, and requirements to address air pollution problems and reduce emissions from major sources of pollutants.

Clean Water Act:

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*) is the primary Federal law that protects the nation's waters, including lakes, rivers, aquifers, and coastal areas. This act provides a comprehensive framework of standards, technical tools, and financial assistance to address the many causes of pollution and poor water quality, including municipal and industrial wastewater discharges, polluted runoff from urban and rural areas, and habitat destruction. Specifically, the Clean Water Act provides for the following:

- Requires major industries to meet performance standards to ensure pollution control.
- Charges states and tribes with setting specific water quality standards appropriate for their waters and developing pollution control programs to meet them.
- Provides funding to states and communities to help them meet their clean water infrastructure needs.
- Protects valuable wetlands and other aquatic habitats through a permitting process that conducts land development activities and other activities in an environmentally sound manner.

coastal zone:

According to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, lands and waters adjacent to the coast that exert an influence on the uses of the sea and its ecology, or whose uses and ecology the sea affects.

Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA):

The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended ((16 U.S.C. 1451-1464; P.L. 92-583), is also known as “Federal Consistency With Approved State Coastal Management Programs” (15 CFR 930). This Federal act preserves, protects, develops, and, where possible, restores or enhances the resources of the nation's coastal zone for the present and for future generations. The provisions of 15 CFR 930.30 ensure that all Federally conducted or supported activities, including development projects directly affecting the coastal zone, are consistent with approved state coastal management programs as much as possible.

collective bargaining agreement:

An agreement between a union and an employer that defines the scope of work, rates of pay, rules, and working conditions for the union's members.

common corridor:

For the purposes of this Final EIS, a railroad line segment that accommodates both public mass transportation service and passenger and freight train operations by using separate tracks adjacent to each other in the same right-of-way or area.

compensation wetlands (compensatory wetlands):

Wetlands that an agency or entity creates, enhances, or preserves to mitigate for unavoidable impacts on existing wetlands that occur as a result of implementation of the agency's or entities' proposed action. These compensation (or compensatory) wetlands replace, “in kind”, wetlands that an agency or entity partially or totally fills or drains during its construction or earth-moving activities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA):

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601-9675; P.L. 96-510); the Federal act that provides EPA with the authority to clean up inactive hazardous waste sites and distribute the cleanup costs among the parties who generated and/or handled the hazardous substances at these sites.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS):

Federal database containing information on potential hazardous waste sites that states, municipalities, private companies, and private persons have reported to the EPA, pursuant to Section 103 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. This database contains sites that are either proposed for inclusion on, or are currently on, the National Priorities List (NPL) and sites that are in the screening and assessment phase for possible inclusion on the NPL.

condition:

A provision that the Board imposes as part of any decision approving the proposed Conrail Acquisition and that requires action by one or more of the Applicants.

conductor:

The operating employee on a train responsible for safe and efficient train movement in accordance with all railroad operating rules and special instructions.

Conrail Shared Assets Operations:

See *Shared Assets Areas*.

consist:

The number and type of locomotives and cars included in a train, considering special factors such as the tonnage and the placement of hazardous materials cars and “high-wides” (oversize dimension cars).

constant warning time:

A motion-sensing system with the capability of measuring train speed and providing a relatively uniform warning time by warning signal devices to highway traffic at highway/rail at-grade crossings.

Control Date:

The date on which the merger can become effective, following formal approval of the Board.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ):	Federal agency responsible for developing regulations and guidance for agencies implementing the National Environmental Policy Act.
craft employee:	Term applied to a railroad employee qualified in a specific railroad operating or maintenance activity (for example, locomotive engineer, train dispatcher, signal maintainer, or car inspector).
crew caller:	Term applied to a railroad employee who is responsible for notifying train crews when and where to report for duty.
crew calling:	Process of notifying train crew members when and where their next tour-of-duty will start. Labor agreements commonly specify that railroads call train crews a minimum of 2 hours before crew members are required to begin their tour-of-duty.
critical habitat:	The specific sites within the geographical area occupied by a threatened or endangered species that include the physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species. These areas may require special management considerations or protection. These areas include specific sites outside the geographical areas occupied by the species at the time of the listing that are essential for the conservation of the species.
criteria of significance:	The criteria SEA developed specifically for the proposed Conrail Acquisition to determine whether a potential adverse environmental effect is significant and may warrant mitigation.
cross-tie:	Transverse wooden, concrete, or steel beam supporting the rails of a railroad track.

- cultural resource:** Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object that warrants consideration for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. A cultural resource that is listed in or is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is considered a historic property (or a significant cultural resource). For the purposes of this Final EIS, the term applies to any resource more than 50 years old for which SEA gathered information to evaluate its significance. In addition, this Final EIS addresses potential environmental impacts of the proposed rail line construction and abandonment activities on Native American reservations and sacred sites.
- cumulative effects:** Effects resulting from the incremental impacts of the proposed Conrail Acquisition when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of which agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such actions, as described in 40 CFR 1508.7. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.
- Day 1:** In the event that the Board approves the proposed Conrail Acquisition, the date (as the Applicants determine through mutual agreement) when operating responsibility for the acquired railroad is transferred to the Applicants' organizations.
- decibel (dB):** A unit of noise measured on a logarithmic scale that compresses the range of sound pressures audible to the human ear over a range from 0 to 140, where 0 decibels represents sound pressure corresponding to the threshold of human hearing, and 140 decibels corresponds to a sound pressure at which pain occurs. Noise analysts measure sound pressure levels that people hear in decibels, much like other analysts measure linear distances in yards or meters. A-weighted decibel (dBA) refers to a weighting that accounts for the various frequency components in a way that corresponds to human hearing.

degradation:	To change a habitat, either terrestrial or aquatic, so that it no longer meets the survival needs of a particular species of plant or wildlife. Such change could include reducing the feeding area, modifying the vegetation type, and limiting the available shelter.
detector car:	One of two types of rail equipment designed to detect imperfections in railroad track structure. Rail detector cars detect internal imperfections within the rail, using ultrasonic techniques. See also <i>track geometry inspection car</i> .
dimensional traffic:	A freight shipment requiring special authorization for movement because of height, width, length, or gross weight.
dispatcher (train):	The railroad operating employee responsible for issuing on-track movement and/or occupancy authority through the use of remotely controlled switches, signals, visual displays, voice control written mandatory directives, and/or all of the above.
dispatcher desk:	The workstation from which a train dispatcher controls a specific portion of a railroad's network.
dispatching:	The process of real-time planning, supervising, and controlling of train movements.
disproportionality (test for):	A comparison test to assess whether potentially high and adverse impacts of an action are predominantly borne or more severe or greater in magnitude in an Environmental Justice (EJ) population than a non-EJ population within the current analysis scale (that is, at the system, state, county, segment, or block group level).
double-stack freight service:	The transport of two intermodal containers stacked on top of each other on one platform of an intermodal rail flat car.

double tracking:	Construction of a second railroad track immediately adjacent to an existing track, to perform railroad activities similar to those occurring on the existing track.
emergent species:	Any type of aquatic plant whose vegetative growth is mostly above the water.
emissions:	Air pollutants that enter the atmosphere.
endangered species:	A species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Federal and state laws protect these species.
Endangered Species Act (ESA):	The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 <i>et seq.</i> ; P.L. 93-205), as amended in 1978, is the primary Federal law protecting endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species. The purpose of the law is to provide for the conservation of habitat for such species.
engineer (railroad):	Employee responsible for operating a railroad locomotive in accordance with train-handling practices, signal indications, operating rules, speed limits, and the technical requirements of the particular locomotive.
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):	A document that the National Environmental Policy Act requires Federal agencies to prepare for major projects or legislative proposals having the potential to significantly affect the environment. A tool for decision-making, it describes the positive and negative environmental effects of the undertaking, and alternative actions and measures to reduce or eliminate potentially significant environmental impacts.

Environmental Justice (EJ):

For purposes of this document, SEA defines environmental justice as the mission discussed in Executive Order (EO) 12898 “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations” (59 FR 7629, February 11, 1994). This EO directs Federal agencies to identify and address “disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects” of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations in the United States. EO 12898 also calls for public notification for environmental justice populations, as well as meaningful public participation of environmental justice populations. In this document, SEA used the guidance provided in the Department of Transportation Order on Environmental Justice, the Council of Environmental Quality, Environmental Justice Guidance under the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Interim Final Guidance for Incorporating Environmental Justice Concerns in EPA’s NEPA analysis to analyze potential disproportionately high and adverse impacts on environmental justice populations for rail segments, intermodal facilities, rail yards, and new construction.

Environmental Justice (EJ) population:

A population within an Area of Potential Effect whose minority and low-income composition meets at least one of the following criteria: (1) The percentage of minority and low-income population in the Area of Potential Effect is greater than 50 percent of the total population in the Area of Potential Effect; or (2) The percentage of minority and low-income population in the Area of Potential Effect is at least ten percentage points greater than the percentage of minority or low-income population in the county of which the Area of Potential Effect is a part.

Environmental Resource Category:

Any of the environmental issues that serve as the major topics of impact analysis for this EIS. Examples include land use, natural resources, noise, hazardous materials, cultural resources, water quality, or air quality.

Environmental Resource Score (ERS):	The impact score determined for an environmental resource category within a (block group) Area of Potential Effect. A typical ERS ranges from 0 to 6, reflecting the relative impact on the Area of Potential Effect compared with impacts on other Areas of Potential Effect. For the Environmental Justice analysis, SEA calculated an ERS for noise, hazardous materials transport, and traffic safety and delay.
equipment:	For a railroad, a term used to refer to the mobile assets of the railroad, such as locomotives, freight cars, and on-track maintenance machines. Also used more narrowly as a collective term for freight cars operated by the railroad.
equipment restrictions:	Operating instructions that restrict certain types of locomotives or freight cars from operating over selected line segments.
Errata:	A list of corrections to the Draft EIS, prepared to facilitate public review of the Draft EIS and to clarify some of the information contained therein.
Executive Order (EO) 12898:	Executive Order 12898, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations,” issued in February of 1994; directs Federal agencies to identify and address as appropriate “disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects,” including interrelated social and economic effects, of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States.
extra board crew caller position:	Railroad employee who does not have a regularly assigned position but who works on an on-call basis.

floodplain:	The lowlands adjoining inland and coastal waters and relatively flat areas and flood-prone areas of offshore islands, including, at a minimum, those areas that have a 1 percent or greater chance of flood in any given year (also known as a 100-year or a Zone A floodplain).
Four City Consortium:	An alliance of the cities of East Chicago, Hammond, Gary, and Whiting, Indiana.
freight car inspections:	Pre-departure tests required for railroad freight cars pursuant to Federal Railroad Administration regulations.
fugitive dust:	According to EPA regulations, those particulate matter emissions that could not “reasonably pass” through a stack, chimney, vent, or other functionally equivalent opening. Examples of fugitive dust include wind-borne particulate matter from earth-moving and material handling during construction activities.
Geographic Information System (GIS):	A computer system for storing, retrieving, manipulating, analyzing, and displaying geographic data. GIS combines mapping and databases.
grade crossing:	See <i>highway/rail at-grade crossing</i> .
grade separation:	See <i>separated grade crossing</i> .
gross ton-mile:	A measure of railroad production that represents the weight of cars and freight movement in terms of total tons per mile transported system-wide or over a specific rail line segment. Specifically, 1 ton of railroad car and loading carried 1 mile.

haulage right(s):	The limited right (or combination of limited rights) of one railroad to have their freight traffic moved by another railroad over the designated lines of the other railroad.
hazardous materials:	Substances or materials that the Secretary of Transportation has determined are capable of posing an unreasonable risk to human health, safety, and property when transported in commerce, as designated under 49 CFR Parts 172 and 173.
hazardous wastes:	Waste materials that, by their nature, are inherently dangerous to handle or dispose of (for example, old explosives, radioactive materials, some chemicals, some biological wastes). Usually, industrial operations produce these waste materials.
high-and-wide load:	Load on a freight car that exceeds the normal height and/or width limits for general operation over a railroad. Such loads may move only with special operating precautions to prevent damage to wayside structures and trains on adjacent tracks.
high-profile crossings:	A condition at a highway/rail at-grade crossing where the elevation of the tracks is above the elevation of the approaching roadway. This condition, generally the result of the periodic raising of the tracks for maintenance of the track bed, can affect sight distance for highway users and can become a hazard for trucks and trailers with low ground-clearance. This is also referred to as “hump crossings”.
highway/rail at-grade crossing:	The general area of an intersection of a public or private road and a railroad where the intersecting rail and highway traffic are at the same level.

historic property:	Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The term “eligible for inclusion in the NRHP” pertains to both properties that the Secretary of the Interior has formally determined to be eligible and to all other properties that meet NRHP listing criteria.
horn noise (train):	Noise that occurs when locomotives sound warning horns in the vicinity of highway/rail at-grade crossings.
hours-of-service regulations:	Federal Hours of Service Law, which Federal Railroad Administration enforces, governing maximum shift lengths and minimum rest periods for railroad operating employees. These employees include train crew, train dispatchers, and signal maintainers, as well as mechanical employees such as hostlers who move equipment for the purpose of test and inspection.
Implementing Agreement:	An agreement between a railroad company and an employee union regarding working conditions on a combined system, and specifying the corresponding seniority districts, work locations, and other terms and conditions of employment.
Inconsistent and Responsive (IR) application:	Proposal to the Surface Transportation Board that Parties of Record submitted prior to October 21, 1997, requesting modifications of, or alternatives to, the proposed Conrail Acquisition.
Indian tribe:	According to Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450-458; P.L. 93-638), any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community recognized as eligible for the special programs and services that the United States provides to Indians because of their status as Indians.

interchange point:	Point at which two or more railroads join to exchange freight traffic.
interlocking:	An arrangement of switch, lock, and signal devices that is located where rail tracks cross, join, or separate. The devices are interconnected in such a way that their movements must succeed each other in a predetermined order, thereby preventing opposing or conflicting movements.
intermodal facility:	A site consisting of tracks, lifting equipment, paved and/or unpaved areas, and a control point for the transfer (receiving, loading, unloading, and dispatching) of trailers and containers between rail and highway, or between rail and marine modes of transportation.
jurisdictional wetland:	Wetlands that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulates under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).
key route:	For the purposes of this Final EIS, a rail line segment that carries an annual volume of 10,000 or more carloads of hazardous material.
key train:	Any train with five or more tank carloads of chemicals classified as a Poison Inhalation Hazard (PIH), or with a total of 20 rail cars with any combination of PIHs, flammable gases, explosives, or environmentally sensitive chemicals.
L_{dn}:	The day-night average noise sound level, which is the receptor's cumulative noise exposure from all noise events over a full 24 hours. This is adjusted to account for the perception that noise at night is more bothersome than the same noise during the day.
L_{eq(h)}:	The hourly energy-averaged noise level.

- labor relations culture:** Philosophy by which an employer and/or parties to a collective bargaining agreement conduct labor-management relations.
- land use consistency:** Determination of whether the proposed Conrail Acquisition represents a change that is consistent with local land use plans in effect, based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents that such agencies have prepared.
- Level of Service (LOS):** A measure of the operational efficiency of a roadway vehicle traffic stream using procedures that consider factors such as vehicle delay, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruptions, comfort and convenience, and safety. Traffic analysts express LOS as letter grades, ranging from Level of Service A (free flowing) to Level of Service F (severely congested); they measure LOS by the average delay for all vehicles. Specifically, Level of Service A describes operations with very low delay (less than 5.0 seconds per vehicle); Level of Service B describes operations with delay in the range of 5.1 to 15.0 seconds per vehicle; Level of Service C describes operations with delay in the range of 15.1 to 25.0 seconds per vehicle; Level of Service D describes operations with delay in the range of 25.1 to 40.0 seconds per vehicle; Level of Service E describes operations with delay in the range of 40.1 to 60.0 seconds per vehicle; and Level of Service F describes operations with delay in excess of 60.0 seconds per vehicle.
- low-income population:** A population composed of persons whose median household income is below the Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines.
- maintenance area:** An area classified by EPA as meeting National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and which previously (within the last 10 years before reclassification) did not meet NAAQS.

maintenance-of-way:	The activity of maintaining the track and structures of a railroad.
major key route:	For the purposes of this Final EIS, a rail line segment where the annual volume of hazardous material it carries is projected to double and also exceed 20,000 carloads as a result of the proposed Conrail Acquisition.
Mechanical Department:	Department of the railroad primarily responsible for the maintenance and inspection of locomotives, freight cars, and other moving equipment.
Memorandum of Agreement (MOA):	With regard to cultural resources for the Final EIS, a legally binding document executed under 36 CFR 800.5(e)(4) that either specifies the process a Federal agency will undertake in order to avoid, reduce, or mitigate adverse effects on historic properties by the implementation of a proposed action, or documents the acceptance of such effects in the public interest. The parties who sign a MOA generally include the lead agency, the State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and sometimes other interested parties.
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):	An agreement that two or more parties execute that sets forth the specific duties and responsibilities of each party. For the purposes of this Final EIS, MOU is an agreement that the Applicants may negotiate with communities.
minority population:	A population composed of persons who are Black (non-Hispanic), Hispanic, Asian American, American Indian, or Alaskan Native.
mitigation:	An action taken to prevent, reduce, or eliminate adverse environmental effects.

motive power:	Locomotives operated by the railroad.
multi-level rail car:	A two- or three-level freight car, designed for transporting automotive vehicles.
Multiple Resource Score (MRS):	For the Environmental Justice analysis, a measure of aggregate impacts used to identify the geographic areas of greatest concern. This score sums the environmental resource scores for hazardous materials transport, noise, and traffic safety and delay and forms the basis for the tests for disproportionality.
National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS):	Air pollutant concentration limits established by the EPA for the protection of human health, structures, and the natural environment.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):	The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321-4347; P.L. 91-190) is the basic national charter for the protection of the environment. It establishes policy, sets goals, and provides means for carrying out the policy. Its purpose is to provide for the establishment of a Council on Environmental Quality and to instruct Federal agencies on what they must do to comply with the procedures and achieve the goals of NEPA.
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA):	The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470-470t <i>et seq.</i> ; P.L. 89-665), is the basic legislation of the Nation's historic preservation program that established the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Section 106 review process. Section 106 of the NHPA requires every Federal agency to "take into account" the effects of its undertakings on historic properties.

National Priorities List (NPL):	A subset of CERCLIS; EPA's list of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term remedial action under the Superfund Program.
National Register of Historic Places (NRHP):	Administered by the National Park Service, the Nation's master inventory of known historic properties, including buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts that possess historic, architectural, engineering, archaeological, or cultural significance at the Federal, state, and local levels.
Native American:	According to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, as amended (25 U.S.C. 3001 <i>et seq.</i> ; P.L. 101-601), of, or relating to, a tribe, people, or culture that is indigenous to the United States.
Native American lands:	According to the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in 36 CFR 800.2, as modified by the scope of this EIS, all lands under the jurisdiction or control of an Indian tribe, including all lands within the exterior boundaries of any American Indian reservation.
Negotiated Agreement:	An agreement between CSX, NS, or both, and one or more communities or other governmental units that addresses potential environmental impacts or other issues.
No-Action Alternative:	The proposed acquisition of Conrail by CSX and NS does not take place under this alternative; also the present setting for the pre-Acquisition conditions.

- noise:** A disturbance or annoyance of an intruding or unwanted sound. Noise impacts essentially depend on the amount and nature of the intruding sound, the amount of background sound already present before the intruding or unwanted sound occurred, and the nature of working or living activity of the people occupying the area where the sound occurs.
- noise contour:** Lines plotted on maps or drawings connecting points of equal sound levels.
- noise-sensitive receptor:** Location where noise can interrupt ongoing activities and can result in community annoyance, especially in residential areas. The Board's environmental regulations include schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes as examples of noise-sensitive receptors.
- nonattainment area:** An area that EPA has classified as not complying with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards promulgated under the Clean Air Act.
- Northeast Corridor (NEC):** Railroad right-of-way between Boston, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C. on which Amtrak and others operate; Amtrak is responsible for operation and maintenance on all of the route, except the route segment between New Haven, Connecticut and New Rochelle, New York.

Northeast Operating Rules:

Rules that govern railroad operations, adapted by members of the Northeast Operating Rules Advisory Committee (NORAC). These operating rules apply to all railroads when working on any NORAC member's territory. The NORAC members are Bay Colony Railroad, Conrail Inc. and Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail), Delaware & Hudson Railway company, Guildford Transportation Industries, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), New Jersey Transit (NJT), New York Susquehanna & Western Railway Corporation, Providence & Worcester Railroad Company, and Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA).

notices:

Documents addressed to engineers and other operating employees detailing temporary or local operating rules and restrictions.

on-track (maintenance) equipment:

Track and other maintenance equipment provided with flanged wheels and able to move along railroad track.

operating employee:

Railroad employee engaged in the operation of trains, including a member of the train crew; a train dispatcher; and a track, a signal, and an equipment maintenance employee.

Operating Plans:

Documents that CSX and NS provided as part of the Application, detailing their planned railroad operations following the proposed Conrail Acquisition.

operating practices:

Safety and operating rules, practices, and procedures contained in operating rulebook, timetable, special instructions, or any other company-issued instructions and the management decisions implementing those rules and instructions that govern the movement of trains and work on or around active tracks.

- operating rules:** Written rules of a railroad governing the operation of trains and the conduct of employees responsible for train operations when working on or around active tracks.
- Operation Lifesaver:** A non-profit public information and safety education program dedicated to eliminating collisions, deaths, and injuries at highway/rail at-grade crossings and on railroad rights-of-way. It is composed of a broad-based coalition of Federal, state, and local government agencies, private safety groups, and transportation industry representatives.
- particulate matter (PM):** Airborne dust or aerosols.
- Party of Record (POR):** Party that notified the Board of their active participation in the proceeding about the proposed Conrail Acquisition. When submitting a filing to the Board, the POR must also notify the entire POR service list.
- passive warning devices:** Traffic control devices that do not give positive notice to highway users of the approach or presence of a train. These devices may include signs and pavement markings, located at, or in advance of, railroad crossings to indicate the presence of a crossing and the presence of a train. These signs are either regulatory or non-regulatory and may include parallel track signs, crossbucks, stop signs, yield signs, and constantly flashing lights.
- positive train separation:** Mechanism included in positive train control, an experimental, automated safety system, using Global Positioning System (GPS) technology, onboard computers and wayside information inputs to control train movement. In the event of failure on the primary safety system, positive train control reduces the risk of single-point failure (that is, human error).

posted speed:	Maximum speed permitted at a specific location on the railroad network irrespective of train type.
Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Class I Areas:	National parks and wilderness areas designated under the Clean Air Act as areas for which users are to maintain air quality at pristine levels, with very small increases in air pollution levels allowed.
Primary Application:	The formal filing of documents with the Surface Transportation Board by applicants for railroad mergers, acquisitions, constructions, or abandonments. The Primary Application contains Operating Plans and information describing related construction projects. It also includes an Environmental Report, describing the physical and operational changes associated with the proposed action and the potential environmental effects of that action.
prime farmland:	According to Natural Resources Conservation Service, land having the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops.
proposed Conrail Acquisition:	The proposed acquisition of Conrail's physical assets and operating systems by CSX and NS, for which the Applicants are seeking approval from the Board.
public uses:	According to 49 U.S.C. 10905 and STB Regulations "Surface Transportation Manual," Section 1105.7(3)iv, those identified alternative public purposes for the use of rail properties proposed for abandonment or discontinuance, including highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, or recreation.
queue:	A line of vehicles waiting at a highway/rail at-grade crossing for an obstruction to clear.

rail line segment:	For the purposes of this Final EIS, portions of rail lines that extend between two terminals or junction points.
rail route:	Line of railroad track between two points on a rail system.
rail spur:	A railroad track that typically connects to the main line at only one end and provides rail service to one or more railroad freight customers. A rail spur could also parallel the main line.
rail yard:	A location or facility with multiple tracks where rail operators switch and store rail cars.
receptor:	See <i>noise-sensitive receptor</i> .
regional and system gang:	A group of railroad maintenance-of-way employees that work a particular region or an entire railroad system.
remediation (remedial actions):	Actions taken to mitigate the adverse effects, or potential adverse effects, to the environmental or to the public health and welfare resulting from the release or spill of hazardous substances.
Request for Conditions:	A document filed with the Board by a party to this proceeding on or before October 21, 1997, that requests the Board to impose one or more specified requirements on the Applicants as a condition to the Board's approval of the proposed Conrail Acquisition.
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA):	The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6901 <i>et seq.</i> ; P.L. 94-580) is a Federal act governing the generating, storing, transporting, treating, and disposing of hazardous waste.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS):

Federal database containing information on facilities that generate, transport, store, treat, and/or dispose of hazardous waste.

Responsive Environmental Report (RER):

A report, submitted by an Inconsistent and Responsive applicant, that contains detailed environmental information regarding the activities proposed in its IR Application and complies with the requirements for environmental reports in the Board's rules at 49 CFR 1105.7(e).

restricted speed:

A speed that will permit a train to stop within one-half the range of vision of the railroad employee controlling the movement of the train; the train must stop before passing improperly aligned switches, a defect in the track structure, deliberately placed objects, or striking other railroad equipment. According to Federal Railroad Administration regulations, this speed is not to exceed 20 miles per hour.

retarder:

In railroad yards, a braking device, usually power-operated, built into a railroad track to reduce the speed of cars by means of brake-shoes which, when set in braking position, press against the sides of the lower portions of the wheels.

right-of-way:

The strip of land for which an entity (for example, a railroad) has a property right to build, operate, and maintain a linear structure (for example, a rail line).

roadmaster:

Railroad supervisor responsible for track inspection and maintenance over a specified portion of the railroad network.

Safety Assurance and Compliance Program (SACP):

Federal Railroad Administration program to audit railroad safety practices and to ensure compliance with Federal regulations.

safety culture:	The manner in which management and employees in an organization view and approach the issue of safety, including both formalized rules and informal practices in the organization.
Safety Implementation Plan Guidelines (SIPG):	A series of acquisition-related guidelines that the Federal Railroad Administration developed for CSX and NS, detailing a list of safety concerns that CSX and NS must address in their Safety Integration Plans.
Safety Integration Plans:	Plans that the Applicants prepared and submitted to the Board to explain how they propose to provide for the safe integration of their separate corporate cultures and operating systems, if the Board approves the proposed Conrail Acquisition.
Section 106 review process:	The review process set forth in Section 106 of the NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470) that requires every Federal agency to “take into account” the effects of its undertakings on historic properties and affords the ACHP the opportunity to comment on those undertakings and their effects.
seniority district:	A geographic area within which a group of employees in a specific labor union (for example, engineers, dispatchers) are authorized and expected to work.
seniority rights:	The priority one employee has over another employee in bidding for available positions, choice of work assignments, and similar matters, based on length of employment in a specified category. Agreements between railroad companies and labor unions specify such rights.
sensitive receptor:	See <i>noise-sensitive receptor</i> .

separated grade crossing:	The site where a local street or highway crosses railroad tracks at a different level or elevation, either as an overpass or as an underpass.
service:	The official notification and delivery of Board decisions and notices (including EAs and EISs) by the Secretary of the Board to persons involved in a particular proceeding.
Settlement Agreement:	An agreement negotiated between CSX or NS or both and one or more parties, including other railroads, that addresses concerns or requests of the party (or parties). Generally, such an agreement addresses competitive customer service or labor issues.
Seven Separate Connections:	Seven new rail line connection construction projects in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. These projects total approximately 4 miles of new track. CSX and NS requested that the Board give early consideration and approval to the physical construction of these particular connections.
Shared Assets Areas:	Areas comprising Conrail facilities in southeastern Michigan, northern New Jersey, and southern New Jersey/Philadelphia that CSX and NS would share and Conrail Shared Assets Operations would operate for the benefit of both CSX and NS, if the Board approves the proposed Conrail Acquisition.
shifted load:	An improperly secured freight car load that has moved and may protrude beyond the allowed dimensional limits.
shipment:	A unit of freight given to the railroad for movement to its destination by an individual customer.

siding:	A track parallel to a main track that is connected to the main track at each end. A siding is used for the passing and/or storage of trains.
signal maintainer:	Railroad employee who maintains signal and communications systems.
socioeconomic:	For this Final EIS, job loss directly attributable to changes in the physical environment as a result of construction and abandonment activities and other activities related to the proposed Conrail Acquisition project.
Sound Exposure Level (SEL):	For a transient noise event such as a passing train, equivalent to the maximum A-weighted sound level that would occur if all of the noise energy associated with the event were restricted to a time period of 1 second. The SEL accounts for both the magnitude and the duration of the noise event; noise analysts use SEL to calculate the day-night average noise level.
Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan (SPCCP):	A site-specific document written to detail measures to prevent discharges of oil into waters of the United States (as defined in the Clean Water Act). Facilities with aboveground storage capacities in a single container greater than 660 gallons, or the aggregate aboveground storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons, or total underground storage capacity greater than 42,000 gallons are required to prepare SPCCPs.
superior train:	For purposes of this Final EIS, a passenger train operating on the same track network with freight trains. Superior trains must have track clear of all trains not less than 15 minutes prior to their arrival. See <i>temporal train separation</i> .

Supplemental Environmental Report:	A report that analyzes the environmental impacts of operating changes related to a Settlement Agreement between an Applicant and another railroad that exceed the Board's thresholds when added to changes proposed in the Applicants' Operating Plans.
switch:	The portion of the track structure used to direct cars and locomotives from one track to another.
switching:	The activity of moving cars from one track to another in a yard or where tracks go into a railroad customer's facility.
temporal train separation:	The time separation of passenger trains that share rail lines with freight trains, in order to reduce the possibility of train collisions. See <i>superior train</i> .
territory:	The portion of a railroad's track network under the management of a particular supervisor.
threatened species:	A species that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or part of its range. Federal and state laws protect these species.
threshold for environmental analysis:	A level of proposed change in railroad activities that determines the need for SEA's environmental review. For the proposed Conrail Acquisition, SEA used the Board's environmental rules at 49 CFR Part 1105 to determine the activities that it would examine for air and noise impacts ("Board thresholds"). For other issue areas, SEA developed appropriate thresholds to guide its environmental review ("SEA thresholds"). The term "Board thresholds", as used in this EIS, may refer to either Board or SEA thresholds.

timetable:	A document that identifies key railroad line features over a defined portion of the network. The features usually include distances, speed limits, track layout, type of signaling, location and length of passing sidings, and the local applicability of specific operating rules. Operating rules are often published with the timetable.
track geometry:	Dimensional description of railroad track and individual rails compared to optimal design criteria.
track geometry inspection car:	Rail vehicle equipped with instruments to make continuous, in-motion measurements of variations in the track gauge, alignment, and cross level.
trackage right(s):	The right (or combination of rights) of one railroad to operate over the designated trackage of another railroad including, in some cases, the right to operate trains over the designated trackage; the right to interchange with all carriers at all junctions, the right to build connections or additional tracks to access other shipper or carriers. See also <i>haulage right(s)</i> .
trackage rights agreement:	An agreement between two parties that defines the trackage rights granted to one party over the tracks of a second party.
traffic volume (highway):	The number of highway vehicles that pass over a given point during a given period of time, often expressed on an annual, daily, hourly, and sub-hourly basis. For the purposes of this Final EIS, SEA expressed highway traffic volumes on a daily basis.
traffic volume (rail):	The total volume of rail traffic that passes over a given rail line segment, typically expressed in either trains per day or annual million gross tons per year.

train (freight):	A conveyance transported by one or more locomotives typically with 40 to 150 freight cars, measuring approximately 5,000 to 8,000 feet in length. For the purposes of this Final EIS, does not apply to locals, work trains, switch-engine movements, or engine-only movements.
train (passenger):	Equipment composed of one or more rail cars designed to carry passengers, propelled by a locomotive or self-propelled, moving from one place to another.
train crew:	Employees assigned to operate a train, usually an engineer, a conductor, and one or more trainmen.
train defect detector:	An electronic device located alongside a rail track that monitors passing trains to determine the presence of certain potentially dangerous conditions, such as an overheated wheel bearing (“hot box”) or a shifted load that protrudes from the rail car.
trainman:	Member of a train crew responsible for assisting the engineer and conductor in operating the train, especially with switching cars.
trainmaster:	Railroad operations supervisor responsible for managing train and yard operations and operating employees on a defined portion of the railroad network.
transient noise event:	An intermittent occurrence of noise, such as the passing of a train that generates such noise.
Transportation Department:	Department of the railroad responsible for day-to-day train operations and dispatching.

Triple Crown Service (TCS):	An expedited intermodal service offered by both Conrail and NS. TCS trains do not require the use of flat cars, but rather use specially designed dual-mode highway trailers that are coupled together with two-axle rail wheel sets that support the ends of the trailers for the rail portion of the rail-highway movement. The equipment used is similar to “RoadRailer” equipment.
turnout:	The portion of railroad track structure where a single track divides into two tracks.
Verified Statement:	A party's sworn statement that provides information to the Board.
vibration velocity:	The rate of change of displacement of a vibration. Noise analysts often express measurements of vibration in terms of velocity because velocity correlates well with human response to vibration.
waybill:	Document or computer record containing details of a rail shipment: origin, destination, route, commodity, freight rate, car or cars used, and similar information.
wayside:	Adjacent to the railroad track, as in “wayside signals” or “wayside defect detectors.”
wayside noise:	Train noise adjacent to the right-of-way that comes from sources other than the horn, such as engine noise, exhaust noise, and noise from steel train wheels rolling on steel rails.

- wetlands:** According to 40 CFR Part 230.41, those “areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions,” generally including swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.
- yardmaster:** Railroad operations supervisor responsible for railroad operations and employees in a railyard.

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