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AND
DEINARD

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W. KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARDSTREETANDDEINARD.COM

July 23, 2008

Honorable Anne Quinlan
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

223032



Re: *Abandonment of Trackage in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota*
STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

Please find enclosed for filing the unbound original and ten copies of Soo Line Railroad Company's Environmental and Historic Reports plus three electronic copies pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 1105. A copy of the transmittal letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 is also enclosed.

I also enclose a duplicate copy of this letter and self-addressed stamped envelope to be stamped with the filing date and returned to the undersigned.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

W. Karl Hansen

Enclosure

cc: Parties on the Attached Service List
Bill Tuttle
Judy Mitchell
Steve Fisk

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KARI.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM



July 23, 2008

To: Persons on the attached Service List

Re: ***Soo Line Railroad Company – Notice of Intent to File Notice of Exemption -
Abandonment of Trackage in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota
STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)***

Dear Sir/Madam.

On August 13, 2008, Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") expects to file with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Verified Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon approximately 61 miles of trackage located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota between milepost Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee). Attached is an Environmental Report and an Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

Soo Line is providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202) 245-0295 and refer to the above Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X). Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact the undersigned directly.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD STREET AND DEINARD


W. Karl Hansen
Enclosures

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LAW OFFICES IN MINNEAPOLIS • MANKATO • ST. CLOUD • WASHINGTON, D.C.

A Professional Association
WWW.LEONARD.COM

SERVICE LIST

U.S Environmental Protection Agency

Robert E. Roberts
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129

U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

Stephen Guertin
Regional Director
U S Fish and Wildlife Service
134 Union Boulevard
Lakewood, Colorado 80228

U S Army Corps of Engineers

Col. David C Press
Commander, Omaha District
U S Army Corps of Engineers
106 S 15th Street
Omaha, NE 68102-1618

Col Jon L. Christensen
District Engineer and Commander, Saint Paul District
US Army Corps of Engineers
190 5th Street East, Suite 401
St. Paul, MN 55101-1638

National Park Service

Ernie Quintana
Regional Director
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

National Geodetic Survey

David B. Zilkoski
Director
National Geodetic Survey
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910-3282

U S Geologic Survey

Mark Myers
Director
U S Geological Survey Headquarters
John W Powell Federal Building
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, Virginia 20192

U.S Soil and Conservation Service

J R. Flores
State Conservationist
North Dakota Natural Resources Conservation Service
Federal Building, Room 270
220 East Rosser Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501

State Clearinghouse

The State of North Dakota has no designated clearinghouse

State Department of Transportation for North Dakota

Francis G Ziegler, P.E.
Director
North Dakota Department of Transportation
608 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

State Environmental Protection Agency for North Dakota

David Glatt
Chief of Environmental Health Department
North Dakota Dep't of Health
Environmental Health Section
918 East Divide Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947

State Historic Preservation Office for North Dakota

Albert I. Berger
President
North Dakota State Historical Board
612 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

Bottineau County

Jeff Beyer, Chair
Bottineau County Board of Commissioners
314 West 5th Street
County Courthouse
Bottineau, ND 58318-1204

Rolette County

Joseph Baker, Chair
Rolette County Board of Commissioners
P O Box 939
County Courthouse
Rolla, ND 58367-0939

Towner County

David Lagcin, Chair
Towner County Board of Commissioners
7255 94th Street NE
Rock Lake, ND 58365

City of Kramer

Myron Brandt
Mayor of Kramer
P.O. Box 25
Kramer, ND 58748

City of Gardena

Scott Loc
Mayor of Gardena
315 Main Street
Kramer, ND 58748

City of Overly

Harvey Wittmayer
Mayor of Overly
149 Anderson Street
Overly, ND 58384

City of Rolette

Paul David
Mayor of Rolette
P O Box 38
Rolette, ND 58366

City of Mylo

Larry Schell
Mayor of Mylo
P.O. Box 22
Mylo, ND 58353

City of Bisbee

Audrey Burell
Mayor of Bisbee
P.O. Box 188
Bisbee, ND 58317

Local and Regional Planning Agencies

Richard Rude, Chairman
Cecil Township Board
2540 89th Street NE
Overly, ND 58384

Tim Debele, Chairman
Elysian Township Board
269 87th Street NE
Kramer, ND 58748

Allen Johnson, Chairman
Kohlmeier Township Board
8850 28th Avenue
Rolette, ND 58366

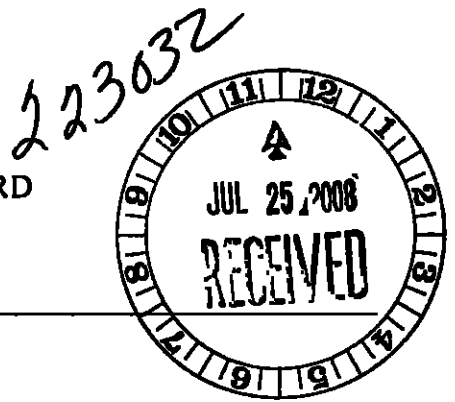
Richard Gust, Chairman
Stone Creek Township Board
P.O. Box 43
Kramer, ND 58748

**Dean Milbrath, Chairman
Oak Creek Township Board
8975 Co. Rd. 47
Bottineau, ND 58318**

**David Reamer, Chairman
Willow Vale Township Board
1434 85th Street NE
Willow City, ND 58384**

**David Solberg, Chairman
New City Township Board
5431 82nd Street NE
Agate, ND 58310**

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D C



SOO LINE RAILROAD COMPANY –)
ABANDONMENT OF TRACKAGE)
LOCATED IN BOTTINEAU, ROLETTE,)
AND TOWNER COUNTIES, NORTH)
DAKOTA)

DOCKET NO. AB-57
(SUB-NO 56X)

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION TO ABANDON PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50
A 61 +/- MILE LINE OF RAILROAD BETWEEN MILEPOST 535 +/- (IN KRAMER) AND
MILEPOST 474.5 (IN BISBEE) WHICH TRAVERSES THROUGH UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE ZIP CODES 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, AND 58317 IN BOTTINEAU,
ROLETTE, AND TOWNER COUNTIES, NORTH DAKOTA

ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC REPORTS
IN COMPLIANCE WITH
49 C.F.R. PART 1105

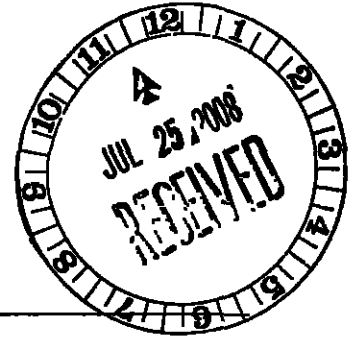
SOO LINE RAILROAD COMPANY ^{ENTERED} Office of Proceedings
(d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway) JUL 25 2008

LEONARD, STREET and DEINARD
Professional Association
W. Karl Hansen
150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Tel. (612) 335-7088
Fax. (612) 335-1657

Part of
Public Record

Attorney for Applicant
Service Date: July 23, 2008

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.**



SOO LINE RAILROAD COMPANY –) ABANDONMENT OF TRACKAGE) LOCATED IN BOTTINEAU, ROLETTE,) AND TOWNER COUNTIES, NORTH) DAKOTA)	DOCKET NO. AB-57 (SUB-NO. 56X)
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VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION TO ABANDON PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50
A 61 +/- MILE LINE OF RAILROAD BETWEEN MILEPOST 535 +/- (IN KRAMER) AND
MILEPOST 474.5 (IN BISBEE) WHICH TRAVERSES THROUGH UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE ZIP CODES 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, AND 58317 IN BOTTINEAU,
ROLETTE, AND TOWNER COUNTIES, NORTH DAKOTA

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC REPORTS
IN COMPLIANCE WITH
49 C.F.R. PART 1105**

The following information is submitted to the Surface Transportation Board by Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway in accordance with the Board's reporting requirements as set forth in 49 C.F.R. Section 1105.7, for the purpose of assisting the Board in its preparation of an environmental document regarding Soo Line's Verified Notice of Exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903, permitting the abandonment of a 61 +/- mile line of railroad between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee) that traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317 in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota

REQUIREMENTS OF 49 C.F.R. SECTION 1105.7

Section 1105.7(b)(1) – (11) Distribution.

(b) At least 20 days prior to filing with the Board a notice of exemption, petition for exemption, or an application for abandonment or discontinuance the applicant must serve copies of the Environmental Report on:

(1) The State Clearinghouse of each State involved (or other state equivalent agency if the State has no clearinghouse);

- (2) The State Environmental Protection Agency of each State involved;
- (3) The State Coastal Zone Management Agency for any state where the proposed activity would affect land or water uses within that State's coastal zone;
- (4) The head of each county (or comparable political entity including any Indian reservation) through which the line goes;
- (5) The appropriate regional offices of the Environmental Protection Agency,
- (6) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
- (7) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- (8) The National Park Service;
- (9) The U.S. Soil Conservation Service;
- (10) The National Geodetic Survey (formerly known as the Coast and Geodetic Survey) as designated agent for the National Geodetic Survey and the U.S. Geological Survey; and;
- (11) Any other agencies that have been consulted in preparing the report.

See List of Parties Consulted and Certificate of Service, attached as Exhibit No. 1.

Section 1105.7(c) Certification of Service of Environmental Report: In its Environmental Report, the applicant must certify that it has sent copies of the Environmental Report to the agencies listed and within the time specified in paragraph (b) of this section and that it has consulted with all appropriate agencies in preparing the report. These consultations should be made far enough in advance to afford those agencies a reasonable opportunity to provide meaningful input.

See List of Parties Consulted and Certificate of Service, attached as Exhibit No. 1.

Section 1105.7(c) Publication of Newspaper Notice of Intent to Abandon: Finally, in every abandonment exemption case, applicant shall certify that it has published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county through which the line passes a notice that alerts the public to the proposed abandonment, to available reuse alternatives, and to how it may participate in the STB proceeding.

The *Towner County Record Herald* in Cando, North Dakota published the Notice for Publication specified at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 on June 28, 2008. The *Turtle Mountain Star* in Rolla, North Dakota published the Notice for Publication specified at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 on June 30, 2008. The *Bottineau Courant* in Bottineau, North Dakota published the Notice for Publication specified at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 on July 1, 2008. Copies of the newspaper notices, Certificate of Counsel, and Affidavits of Publication are attached as Exhibit No. 2.

Section 1105.7(d) Documentation: Any written responses received from agencies that were contacted in preparing the Environmental Report shall be attached to the report. Oral responses from such agencies shall be briefly summarized in the report and the names, titles, and telephone numbers of the persons contacted shall be supplied. A copy of, or appropriate citation to, any reference materials relied upon also shall be provided.

All the agencies referenced at 49 C.F.R. Section 1105.7(b) were contacted by letters dated June 13, 2008 to solicit comments. See Exhibit Nos. 1 and 4. Responses received to date have been incorporated along with Soo Line's analysis. Copies of responses are attached as Exhibit No. 3. Subsequent written comments may be received by SEA and Soo Line.

Status of written and oral comments received:

1105.7(b)(1) State Clearinghouse.

The State of North Dakota has no designated clearinghouse. The North Dakota Department of Transportation and the North Dakota State Historical Board have been solicited for comments.

1105.7(b)(2) State Environmental Protection Agency:

The North Dakota Department of Health's Environmental Health Section was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, and its response is included in Exhibit 3.

1105.7(b)(3) State Coastal Zone Management Agency for North Dakota:

The State of North Dakota is not within a designated coastal zone.

1105.7(b)(4) Head of Each County Through Which The Line Goes:

The head of each county and the city executives through which the tracks run were contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no responses have been received to date.

1105.7(b)(5) Appropriate Regional Offices of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Regional Director of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008 but no response has been received to date.

1105.7(b)(6) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services:

The Regional Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, and its response is included in Exhibit 3.

1105.7(b)(7) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Omaha District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, and its response is included in Exhibit 3. The Omaha District forwarded the correspondence to the Saint Paul District on June 19, 2008, which has not provided a response to date.

1105.7(b)(8) National Park Service:

The Regional Director of the National Park Service was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no response has been received to date.

1105.7(b)(9) U S Soil Conservation Service:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, and its response is included in Exhibit 3.

1105 7(b)(10) National Geodetic Survey:

The National Geodetic Survey was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no response has been received to date.

1105.7(b)(10) U S. Geological Survey:

The U.S. Geological Survey was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, and its response is included in Exhibit 3.

1105.7(e)(3) Local and Regional Planning Activities:

The Cecil, Elysian, Kohlmeier, Stone Creek, Oak Creek, Willow Vale, and Head of New City Township Boards were contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no responses have been received to date.

Other Comments Received:

No other comments have been received.

Section 1105.7(e) Content: The Environmental Report shall include all of the information specified in this paragraph, except to the extent that applicant explains why any portion(s) are inapplicable. If an historic report is required under § 1105.8, the Environmental Report should also include the Historic Report required by that section.

The Historic Report pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8 is attached as Exhibit No 5

Section 1105.7(e)(1) Proposed Action and Alternatives: Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rail line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable, detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

The proposed action is the abandonment of 61 miles of track in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. The track has been out of service

and no traffic has moved over the line for over eight years. Any overhead trackage has already been rerouted over other lines. Following abandonment, any remaining ties and rails will be removed. Ties and rail will be either recycled or disposed of in an appropriate manner. Detailed maps of the project are included as Appendices A and B to the Historic Report attached as Exhibit No. 5.

Section 1105.7(c)(2) Transportation System: Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns. Estimate the amount of traffic (passenger or freight) that will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed action.

No traffic will be diverted to other transportation systems by the abandonment of this out-of-service line of railroad. The elimination of 120 at-grade crossings will improve vehicle safety for North Dakota's transportation system.

Section 1105.7(c)(3)(i) Land Use: Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

The Cecil, Elysian, Kohlmeier, Stone Creek, Oak Creek, Willow Vale, and Head of New City Township Boards were contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no responses have been received to date.

Section 1105.7(c)(3)(ii): Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, the proposed action will have no effect on any prime agricultural land.

Section 1105.7(e)(3)(iii): If the action affects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.9.

The State of North Dakota is not within a designated coastal zone.

Section 1105.7(c)(3)(iv): If the proposed action is an abandonment, state whether or not the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. 10906 and explain why.

The right-of-way may be suitable for alternative public use.

Section 1105.7(e)(4)(i) Energy: Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

The proposed abandonment will have no effect on the development and transportation of energy resources, or on the movement and/or recovery of

recyclable commodities because no such energy resources or recyclable commodities are presently transported over this line

Section 1105.7(c)(4)(ii): Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities.

No impact is anticipated.

Section 1105.7(c)(4)(iii): State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.

No impact is anticipated.

Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iv): If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:

- A. 1,000 rail carloads a year; or
- B. An average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given. To minimize the production of repetitive data, the information on overall energy efficiency in § 1105.7(c)(4)(iii) need not be supplied if the more detailed information § 1105.7(e)(4)(iv) is required

The proposed action will not cause any diversion from rail to motor carriage

Section 1105.7(c)(5)(i) Air. If the proposed action will result in either:

- A. An increase in rail traffic of at least 100 percent (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least eight trains a day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposal; or
- B. An increase in rail yard activity of at least 100 percent (measured by carload activity); or
- C. An average increase in truck traffic of more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment, quantify the anticipated effect on air emissions. For a proposal under 49 U.S.C. 10901 (or 10505) to construct a new line or reinstitute service over a previously abandoned line, only the eight train a day provision in subsection (5)(i)(A) will apply

The proposed abandonment:

- A. Will not result in an increase in rail traffic of at least 100 percent or an increase of at least eight trains per day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposed abandonment.

B. Will not result in an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100 percent (measured by carload activity).

C Will not result in an average increase in truck traffic by 10 percent or 50 vehicles per day for any affected road segment.

Section 1105.7(e)(5)(ii): If the proposed action affects a class I or non-attainment area under the Clean Air Act, and will result in either:

A. An increase in rail traffic of at least 50 percent (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least three trains a day on any segment of rail line;

B. An increase in rail yard activity of at least 20 percent (measured by carload activity), or

C. An average increase in truck traffic or more than 10 percent of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on a given road segment. then state whether any expected increased emissions are within the parameters established by the State Implementation Plan. However, for a rail construction under 49 U.S.C. 10901 (or 49 U.S.C. 10505), or a case involving the reinstitution of service over a previously abandoned line, only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply

The proposed abandonment:

A. Will not result in an increase in rail traffic of at least 50 percent or an increase of at least three trains per day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposed abandonment.

B. Will not result in an increase in rail yard activity of at least 20 percent (measured by carload activity)

C. Will not result in an average increase in truck traffic by 10 percent or 50 vehicles per day for any affected road segment

Section 1105.7(e)(5)(iii): If transportation of ozone depleting materials (such as nitrogen oxide and freon) is contemplated, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency or service; safety practices (including any speed restrictions), the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and spills, contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of ozone depleting materials in the event of a collision or derailment.

Transportation of ozone depleting materials are not involved

Section 1105.7(e)(6) Noise: If any of the thresholds identified in item (5)(i) of this section are surpassed, state whether the proposed action will cause:

- (i) An incremental increase in noise levels of three decibels Ldn or more; or
- (ii) An increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (c.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area, and quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed.

None of the thresholds identified in item (5)(i) of this section will be surpassed.

Section 1105.7(c)(7)(i) Safety: Describe any effects of the proposed action on public health and safety (including vehicle delay time at railroad grade crossings).

Public health and safety will not be affected adversely by the proposed abandonment

Section 1105.7(c)(7)(ii): If hazardous materials are expected to be transported, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; whether chemicals are being transported that, if mixed, could react to form more hazardous compounds; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and hazardous spills; the contingency plans to deal with accidental spills, and the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials.

No hazardous materials are currently transported over this line segment

Section 1105.7(c)(7)(iii): If there are any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved.

There are no known hazardous waste sites or hazardous material spills on the right-of-way. A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was completed in August 2007. A copy of the assessment will be made available upon request.

Section 1105.7(c)(8)(i) Biological Resources: Based on consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects.

The Regional Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no response has been received to date.

Section 1105.7(c)(8)(ii): State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests be affected, and describe any effects.

No sanctuaries, state parks, or refuges will be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment as none exist along the right-of-way.

Section 1105.7(e)(9)(i) Water: Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

The proposed abandonment is consistent with applicable federal, state, or local water quality standards. Soo Line will take proper care during salvage activities to prevent any impact on water quality

Section 1105.7(e)(9)(ii): Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

Permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act are not required for the proposed action. No designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be adversely affected. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been notified of the proposed abandonment.

Section 1105.7(e)(9)(iii): State whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the State Environmental Protection or Equivalent Agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required).

Because no in-stream salvage activities are contemplated, no permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (NPDES permit requirements) are required.

Section 1105.7(e)(10) Proposed Mitigation. Describe any actions that are proposed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, indicating why the proposed mitigation is appropriate.

Soo Line does not anticipate any adverse effect to the environment. Other than using appropriate care in conducting salvage operations, no mitigation will be necessary.

Section 1105.7(e)(11) Additional Information for Rail Constructions: The following additional information should be included for rail construction proposals (including connecting track construction).

Not applicable.

Section 1105.8 Historic Reports: (a) An applicant proposing an action identified in § 1105.6(a) or (b), or an action in § 1105.6(c) that will result in the lease, transfer, or sale of a railroad's line, sites or structures, must submit (with its application, petition or notice) the Historic Report described in paragraph (d) of this section, unless excepted under paragraph (b) of this section. This report should be combined with the Environmental Report where one is required. The purpose of the Historic Report is to provide the Board with sufficient information to conduct the consultation process required by the National Historic Preservation Act.

The Historic Report is attached as Exhibit No 5

Section 1105.9 Coastal Zone Management Act Requirements· If the proposed action affects land or water uses within a State coastal zone designated pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C 1451 et seq.) applicant must comply with the following procedures

The State of North Dakota is not within a designated coastal zone.

END OF REPORT

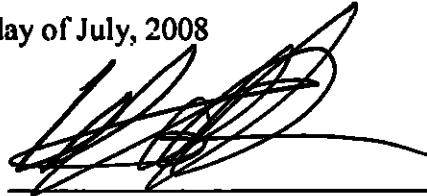
Exhibit No. 1

**Certificate of Service of Environmental and Historic Report
and List of Parties Consulted**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC REPORTS

I hereby certify that on July 23, 2008, I served the Environmental Report and Historic Report relative to STB Docket No AB-57 (Sub-No 56X), pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.50, 1105.7(b), (c); and 1105.11, by First Class U S Mail properly addressed and with postage prepaid upon the parties listed on the attached List of Parties Consulted.

Dated at Minneapolis, Minnesota this 23rd day of July, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Karl Hansen', written over a horizontal line.

W. Karl Hansen

ENVIRONMENTAL & HISTORICAL REPORT

LIST OF PARTIES CONSULTED

STB DOCKET NO AB-57 (SUB-NO. 56X)

Parties consulted in preparing Environmental and Historical Reports – Soo Line Company (d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway) - Abandonment of a 61 +/- Mile Line of Railroad Between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee) That Traverses Through United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota

FEDERAL AGENCIES CONSULTED

Appropriate Regional Office(s) of the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Robert E Roberts
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Stephen Guertin
Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
134 Union Boulevard
Lakewood, Colorado 80228

U S Army Corps of Engineers

Col. David C. Press
Commander, Omaha District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
106 S. 15th Street
Omaha, NE 68102-1618

Col. Jon L. Christensen
District Engineer and Commander, Saint Paul District
US Army Corps of Engineers
190 5th Street East, Suite 401
St. Paul, MN 55101-1638

National Park Service

Ernie Quintana
Regional Director
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

National Geodetic Survey

David B. Zilkoski
Director
National Geodetic Survey
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910-3282

U.S. Geologic Survey

Mark Myers
Director
U.S. Geological Survey Headquarters
John W. Powell Federal Building
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, Virginia 20192

U S Soil and Conservation Service

J.R. Flores
State Conservationist
North Dakota Natural Resources Conservation Service
Federal Building, Room 270
220 East Rosser Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501

STATE AGENCIES CONSULTED

State Clearinghouse

The State of North Dakota has no designated clearinghouse

State Department of Transportation for North Dakota

Francis G. Ziegler, P E
Director
North Dakota Department of Transportation
608 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

State Environmental Protection Agency for North Dakota

David Glatt
Chief of Environmental Health Department
North Dakota Dep't of Health
Environmental Health Section
918 East Divide Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947

State Historic Preservation Office for North Dakota

Albert I. Berger
President
North Dakota State Historical Board
612 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

Other Political Entities and/or Indian Reservations through which the line runs

Bottineau County

Jeff Beyer, Chair
Bottineau County Board of Commissioners
314 West 5th Street
County Courthouse
Bottineau, ND 58318-1204

Rolette County

Joseph Baker, Chair
Rolette County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 939
County Courthouse
Rolla, ND 58367-0939

Towner County

David Lagein, Chair
Towner County Board of Commissioners
7255 94th Street NE
Rock Lake, ND 58365

City of Kramer

Myron Brandt
Mayor of Kramer
P.O. Box 25
Kramer, ND 58748

City of Gardena

Scott Loe
Mayor of Gardena
315 Main Street
Kramer, ND 58748

City of Overly

Harvey Wittmayer
Mayor of Overly
149 Anderson Street
Overly, ND 58384

City of Rolette

Paul David
Mayor of Rolette
P O Box 38
Rolette, ND 58366

City of Mylo

Larry Schell
Mayor of Mylo
P.O. Box 22
Mylo, ND 58353

City of Bisbee

Audrey Burell
Mayor of Bisbee
P.O. Box 188
Bisbee, ND 58317

Local and Regional Planning Agencies

Richard Rude, Chairman
Cecil Township Board
2540 89th Street NE
Overly, ND 58384

Tim Debele, Chairman
Elysian Township Board
269 87th Street NE
Kramer, ND 58748

Allen Johnson, Chairman
Kohlmeier Township Board
8850 28th Avenue
Rolette, ND 58366

Richard Gust, Chairman
Stone Creek Township Board
P.O. Box 43
Kramer, ND 58748

**Dean Milbrath, Chairman
Oak Creek Township Board
8975 Co Rd. 47
Bottineau, ND 58318**

**David Reamer, Chairman
Willow Vale Township Board
1434 85th Street NE
Willow City, ND 58384**

**David Solberg, Chairman
New City Township Board
5431 82nd Street NE
Agate, ND 58310**

Exhibit No. 2

**Certification of Publication of Newspaper Notice in Newspapers of General Circulation in
Counties where Line is Situated and Affidavits of Publication**

(49 C.F.R. Section 1105.12)

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE
IN NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN ALBANY COUNTY, NEW YORK

I hereby certify that relative to STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X), pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Sections 1152.50 and 1105.12, public legal notices were published in the *Towner County Record Herald* on June 28, 2008, the *Turtle Mountain Star* on June 30, 2008, and the *Bottineau Courant* on July 1, 2008, which are newspapers of general circulation in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota, where the subject trackage is located.

Dated at Minneapolis, Minnesota this 23rd day of July, 2008



W. Karl Hansen

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE of NORTH DAKOTA
County of Towner

I, Michael Savaloja, of said State and County, being first duly sworn on oath, do say: That I am the Publisher of the Towner County Record Herald, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the City of Cando, in the said County and State, and have been during the time hereinafter mentioned; and that the

Notice of intent To file for permit
To abandon railroad in Kramer-Bisbee
area.

a printed copy of which is hereunto annexed, was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper during the period and time of publication hereinafter mentioned; and that the notice was published in the newspaper proper and not in supplement, to-wit:

June 28, 2008, 20____
_____, 20____, 20____
_____, 20____, 20____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9TH day of
July, A D., 20 08.

Floyd H. BERGE
Notary Public, North Dakota

FLOYD H. BERGE
Notary Public
State of North Dakota
My Commission Expires June 27, 2012

Publication Fee \$ 24.46
(\$5 15 per col. inch)

NOTICE

Soo Line Railroad Company, (d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway) gives notice that on or about August 7, 2008, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a Notice of Exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F, *Consent Abandonment*, permitting the abandonment of a 61 +/- mile line of railroad between milepost 638 +/- (near Kramer) and milepost 474.5 +/- (near Bisbee) and which traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58748, 58364, 58366, 58363, and 58317 in Bottineau, Rahn, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-67 (Sub-No. 569).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the Notice of Exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC, 20423, or by calling that office at 202-245-0235.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental concerns, public use conditions, or rail transportation use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as title use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423 (See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)) and one copy must be served on applicant's representative (See 49 CFR 1104.12(e)). Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or title use may be directed to the Board's Office of Congressional and Public Services at 202-245-0220. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative, W. Karl Hansen at Leonard, Street and O'Connell, 150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300, Minneapolis, MN 55402, 612-336-1800.

Soo Line Railroad Company
(d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway)
Minneapolis, Minnesota

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA)

) ss.

County of Rolette)

Jason Wordmark being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the publisher of the hereinafter described newspaper and makes this affidavit as such that the annexed printed copy of Notice of Exemption

was taken from the Turtle Mountain Star, a newspaper which, during the whole time of publication of said Notice hereinafter state, had been, and is printed and published in Rolla, County of Rolette and State of North Dakota, that the said Notice was published in said newspaper on the following dates.

June 30, 2008 _____, 20_____
_____, 20_____, 20_____
_____, 20_____, 20_____

In each and every issue of the full number thereof, upon which days or times of publication aforementioned the said newspaper was regularly published and that the said newspaper was then and is now a bona-fide legal newspaper published at Rolla, County of Rolette, and State of North Dakota.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th day of

June, 2008.

Affiant

Debbie Disher

Notary Public, Rolette County
North Dakota

DEBBIE DISHER
Notary Public
State of North Dakota
My Commission Expires Aug 20, 2013

NOTICE

Soo Line Railroad Company, (d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway) gives notice that on or about August 7, 2008, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a Notice of Exemption under 49 C.F.R. 1152 Subpart F - Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment of a 61 1/2 mile line of railroad between milepost 636 1/2 (near Korman) and milepost 474 1/2 (near Stebo) and which traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58385, 58383, and 58317, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-07 (Sub-No. 583).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the Notice of Exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 205 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC, 20423, or by calling that office at 202-245-0295.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423 (202-445-4900) and 1104.3(a)(3), and one copy must be served on applicant's representative (202-445-4900). Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use, or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Congressional and Public Services at 202-245-0230. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative, W. Karl Hansen at Lacard, Street and Omand, 150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300, Minneapolis, MN 55402, 612-335-1800.

Soo Line Railroad Company
(d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway)
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Affidavit of Publication

NOTICE

Soo Line Railroad Company, (d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway) gives notice that on or about August 7, 2008, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a Notice of Exemption under 49 C.F.R. 1152 Subpart F - Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment of a 61 +/- mile line of rail-road between milepost 535 +/- (near Kramer) and milepost 474 5 +/- (near Bls-bee) and which traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-57 (Sub No 56X)

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the Notice of Exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, S.W. Washington, DC, 20423, or by calling that office at 202 245 0295

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423 [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicant's representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Congressional and Public Services at 202 245 0230. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative, W Karl Hansen at Leonard, Street and Delnard, 150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300, Minneapolis, MN 55402, 612-335-1500.

Soo Line Railroad Company
(d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway)
Minneapolis, Minnesota

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA)
County of Bottineau) ss
)

I, Wanda Marneth being first duly sworn, on my oath, say that I am the bookkeeper of The Bottineau Courant, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in the City of Bottineau, in said county and state, and that the advertisement headed.

Notice - Soo Line

a printed copy of which is here annexed, was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper during the period and time of publication, and that the notice was published in the newspaper proper, and not in a supplement,

for one consecutive week 7-1-08 to wit:

Straight Matter Lines	<u>49</u>	<u>20</u>
First Time Line Rate	<u>.69</u>	<u>\$33.81 7-1, 20 08</u>
Subsequent Line Rates	<u> </u>	<u> , 20</u>
Tabulated Lines	<u> </u>	<u> , 20</u>
First Time Line Rate	<u> </u>	<u> , 20</u>
Subsequent Line Rates	<u> </u>	<u> , 20</u>
Column Inches	<u> </u>	<u> , 20</u>
First Time Inch Rate	<u> </u>	<u> , 20</u>
Subsequent Inch Rates	<u> </u>	<u> , 20</u>

Notary Fee Total Cost of Legal, \$ 33.81

Wanda Marneth

Subscribed and sworn to me before this 3rd day of July

A.D. 20 08

Denise Hagen

Notary Public, State of North Dakota

My Commission expires 11-22, 20 08

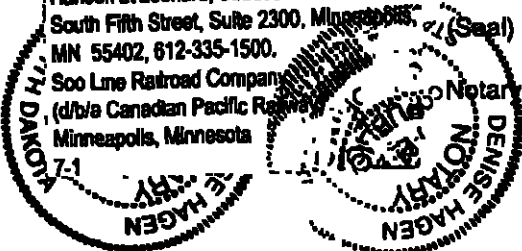


Exhibit No 3

Responses to Environmental Scoping Correspondence Sent June 13, 2008



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov



June 23, 2008

Mr. W. Karl Hansen
Leonard Street and Deinard
150 South 5th Street, Suite 2300
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Re: Proposed Rail Line Abandonment, Kramer to Bisbee
Bottineau, Rolette and Towner Counties; North Dakota
STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mr. Hansen:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted under date of June 13, 2008, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

This department believes that environmental impacts from the proposed railroad abandonment will be minor and can be controlled by proper salvage and disposal methods. With respect to the abandonment, we have the following comments:

1. Follow Best Management Practices during salvage activities to prevent dirt, construction debris, and waste material from entering a storm drainage system or water body. This includes minimal disturbance of stream beds and banks to prevent excess siltation, and the replacement and revegetation of any disturbed area as soon as possible after work has been completed. Caution must also be taken to prevent spills of oil and grease that may reach the receiving water from equipment maintenance, and/or the handling of fuels on the site. Guidelines for minimizing degradation to waterways during construction are attached.
2. Any releases of petroleum products, hazardous materials, or chemicals that may impact human health or the environment, which are known to have occurred in the past or are discovered in the project area during abandonment and salvage operations, must be reported to the North Dakota Department of Health. The Department's Environmental Emergency Response Contacts List is attached.
3. Projects disturbing one or more acres are required to have a permit to discharge storm water runoff until the site is stabilized by the reestablishment of vegetation or other permanent cover. Further information on the storm water permit may be obtained from the Department's website or by calling the Division of Water Quality (701-328-5210). Also, cities or counties may impose additional requirements and/or specific best management practices for construction affecting their storm drainage system. Check with the local officials to be sure any local storm water management considerations are addressed.

Environmental Health
Section Chief's Office
701 328 5150

Division of
Air Quality
701 328 5188

Division of
Municipal Facilities
701 328 5211

Division of
Waste Management
701 328 5168

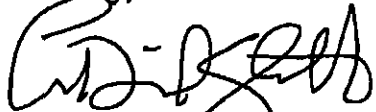
Division of
Water Quality
701 328 5210

The department owns no land in or adjacent to the proposed improvements, nor does it have any projects scheduled in the area. In addition, we believe the proposed activities are consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the Control of Air Pollution for the State of North Dakota.

These comments are based on the information provided about the project in the above-referenced submittal. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may require a water quality certification from this department for the project if the project is subject to their Section 404 permitting process. Any additional information which may be required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the process will be considered by this department in our determination regarding the issuance of such a certification.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. David Glatt', written over a horizontal line.

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief
Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc
Attach.



Construction and Environmental Disturbance Requirements

These represent the minimum requirements of the North Dakota Department of Health. They ensure that minimal environmental degradation occurs as a result of construction or related work which has the potential to affect the waters of the State of North Dakota. All projects will be designed and implemented to restrict the losses or disturbances of soil, vegetative cover, and pollutants (chemical or biological) from a site.

Soils

Prevent the erosion of exposed soil surfaces and trapping sediments being transported. Examples include, but are not restricted to, sediment dams or berms, diversion dikes, hay bales as erosion checks, riprap, mesh or burlap blankets to hold soil during construction, and immediately establishing vegetative cover on disturbed areas after construction is completed. Fragile and sensitive areas such as wetlands, riparian zones, delicate flora, or land resources will be protected against compaction, vegetation loss, and unnecessary damage.

Surface Waters

All construction which directly or indirectly impacts aquatic systems will be managed to minimize impacts. All attempts will be made to prevent the contamination of water at construction sites from fuel spillage, lubricants, and chemicals, by following safe storage and handling procedures. Stream bank and stream bed disturbances will be controlled to minimize and/or prevent silt movement, nutrient upsurges, plant dislocation, and any physical, chemical, or biological disruption. The use of pesticides or herbicides in or near these systems is forbidden without approval from this Department.

Fill Material

Any fill material placed below the high water mark must be free of top soils, decomposable materials, and persistent synthetic organic compounds (in toxic concentrations). This includes, but is not limited to, asphalt, tires, treated lumber, and construction debris. The Department may require testing of fill materials. All temporary fills must be removed. Debris and solid wastes will be removed from the site and the impacted areas restored as nearly as possible to the original condition.

North Dakota Department of Health
Environmental Health Section
Environmental Emergency Response Contacts List

NORMAL WORKING HOURS 8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday
Call the office phone numbers

AFTER HOURS 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
STATE RADIO 1-701-328-9921
or 1-800-472-2121 (in-state calls)

Page

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CASE MANAGER

Page

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION CASE MANAGER Office phone no 328-5150
--

Alternate Contact

Primary Contacts

WATER POLLUTION oil spills
Office phone no 328-5210

AIR POLLUTION gases, vapors
Office phone no 328-5188

RADIATION radioactive materials
Office phone no 328-5188

TOXIC & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS pesticides, insecticides, chemicals
Office phone no 328-5188

DRINKING WATER public water systems
Office phone no 328-5211

CHEMISTRY LABORATORY sample analysis
Office phone no 328-6140

1st Alternative Contact Dana Mount Office phone no.: 328-5150 Home phone no.: 223-8735
--

Approved by:

Date: June 4, 2002

2nd Alternative Contact L. David Clark Office phone no.: 328-5150 Home phone no.: 255-6391
--

Approved by:

Date: June 4, 2002

[Signature]
Emergency Response Coordinator
[Signature]
Chief, Environmental Health Section

ND Department of Health
Environmental Health Section
918 East Divide Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947

June 4, 2002

**LEONARD
STREET
AND
DEINARD**

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W. KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
JUN 13 2008

June 13, 2008

Stephen Guertin
Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mountain-Prairie Region
134 Union Boulevard
Lakewood, Colorado 80228

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mr. Guertin:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

4464954v1

LAW OFFICES IN MINNEAPOLIS • MANKATO • ST. CLOUD • WASHINGTON, D.C.

A Professional Association
WWW.LEONARD.COM

As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

The Environmental Report for the proposed abandonment is being prepared pursuant to STB regulations (49 C.F.R. Chapter X, Part 1105) (copy of which is enclosed), the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4332; the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6362(b); and related laws including the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451, and the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531. Areas of concern that you and other interested parties are invited to address in your comments include any potential impact of the proposed action on the following:

- Local land use
- Existing local and regional transportation systems
- Energy use
- Air emissions and ambient air quality conditions
- Water quality and wetlands
- Biological resources including threatened or endangered species
- Ambient noise levels
- Public health safety
- Historic, cultural, or archaeological sites listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places
- Socioeconomics, including local and regional employment

We are soliciting your comments with regard to: (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R., Chapter X, Part 1105.7(e)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency.

Specifically, the Board's regulations state that, with respect to the area of concern within the jurisdiction of your agency, Soo Line must address the following:

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(e)(4)(i)-(iv) Energy:

(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

(ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities.

(iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.

(iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than.

(A) 1,000 rail carloads a year; or

(B) An average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given. To minimize the production of repetitive data, the information on overall energy efficiency in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iii) need not be supplied if the more detailed information in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iv) is required."

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(e)(5)(ii) Air:

(ii) If the proposed action affects a class I or non-attainment area under the Clean Air Act."

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(e)(6)(ii) Noise:

(ii) An increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area, and

quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed "

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(e)(7)(iii) Safety.

(iii) If there are known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved."

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(e)(9)(i), (ii), & (iii) Water:

(i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

(iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)" (emphasis added)

Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

Any comments or information that you provide will be included in Soo Line's Environmental Report and will be considered by the STB in the preparation of the draft environmental document and in its evaluation of the overall environmental and energy impact of the proposed action. Your cooperation will help ensure that all environmental concerns are thoroughly addressed

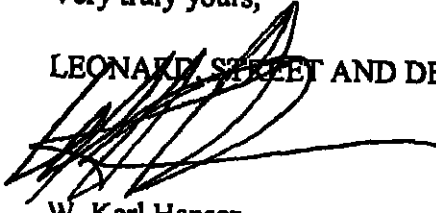
June 13, 2008

Page 5

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STEET AND DEINARD


W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

**ECOLOGICAL SERVICES
ND FIELD OFFICE**

Project as described will have no significant impact on fish and wildlife resources. No endangered or threatened species are known to occupy the project area. IF PROJECT DESIGN CHANGES ARE MADE, PLEASE SUBMIT PLANS FOR REVIEW.

6-23-08

Date

Jeffrey K. Towner

Jeffrey K. Towner
Field Supervisor

From: Crane, David J NWO [<mailto:David.J.Crane@usace.army.mil>]

Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 3:50 PM

To: Werner, Dana L MVP

Cc: Hansen, Karl

Subject: Proposed Rail Line Abandonment - St. Paul District

Hello, Dana I have attached a letter requesting comments on a Proposed Rail Line Abandonment in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It is outside of the Omaha District's Civil Works boundaries so I will not be able to provide a <<Proposed Rail Line Abandonment.pdf>> my comments. Please provide Mr. Karl Hansen with the appropriate comments regarding this project.

Karl,

If you are ever unsure of the USACE District a project is in please visit this site <http://usace.army.mil/howdoi/where.html>. Here you can type in the zip code the project is in and it will tell you the name and address of the District it is in.

Thanks,

Dave Crane (CENWO-PM-AE)
Environmental Resources Specialist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1616 Capitol Ave
Omaha, NE 68102
T: (402) 995-2676
F: (402) 995-2711

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
P O Box 1458
Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

June 25, 2008

W. Karl Hansen
Leonard, Street, and Deinard
150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300
Minneapolis, MN 55402

RE: Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties,
North Dakota – STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mr. Hansen:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has reviewed your letter regarding the referenced activity. NRCS addresses impacts to wetlands and farmlands at the field office level. It appears that most, if not all, of the project impacts will take place within the existing railroad right-of-way.

Important Farmlands - NRCS has a major responsibility with FPPA in documenting conversion of farmland (i.e., prime, statewide, and local importance) to non-agricultural use. Your proposed project is committed to abandonment of the existing railroad site where FPPA does not apply, therefore, no further action is required

Wetlands – NRCS is the lead agency for wetland delineation on agricultural lands, including cropland, rangeland, and pastureland. If requested, the local NRCS office will provide a certified wetland inventory for the project to be utilized in the 404 permitting process. (Note: the Corps of Engineers is the lead agency for non-agricultural lands, such as urban areas.) We offer the following comments based on the information you provided to us for this project. 1) To the extent possible, all natural drainage patterns should be maintained. Land use that may be affected during abandonment should be returned to the original land use cover. 2) If the railroad bed is removed, spoil should not be placed in wetlands or natural water courses. The local NRCS district conservationist in each county can provide wetland inventory maps as needed. Erosion control measures should be in effect during all periods of road bed removal activities. 3) This project should have no significant impact on existing soil and water conservation practices in the areas.

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



Mr. Hansen
Page 2

If you have additional questions pertaining to FPPA, please contact Steve Sieler, State Soil
T Liaison, at (701) 530-2019.

Sincerely,



ACTING J.R. FLORES
State Conservationist

cc:

Cindy Roth, DC, NRCS, Bottineau, ND
Paulette Gustafson, DC, NRCS, Rolla, ND
Douglas Dragseth, DC, NRCS, Towner, ND
Andy Wingenbach, ASTC (FO), NRCS, Devils Lake, ND



United States Department of the Interior

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Reston, VA 20192

In Reply Refer To:
Mail Stop 423

JUN 20 2008

W. Karl Hansen
Leonard, Street, and Deinard
150 South Fifth Street
Suite 2300
Minneapolis, MN 55402

**Subject: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line
Abandonment Located Between Mileposts 535 (in Kramer) and 474.5 (in Bisbee) in
Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, SD – STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)**

Dear Mr. Hansen,

This is in response to your letter dated June 13, 2008. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has no permitting or approval authority with respect to the proposed action and has no comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed action. For information concerning the natural resources of the project area, please contact Mark Anderson, Director of the USGS South Dakota Water Science Center, at (605) 394-3220.

Sincerely,

James F. Devine

Senior Advisor for Science Applications

Copy to:
USGS South Dakota Water Science Center

BCC:
Director Chron File

Exhibit No. 4

**Environmental Scoping Correspondence Required By 49 C.F.R. Section 1105.7(b)
For Which Responses Were Not Received**

LEONARD
STREET
AND
DEINARD

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

David Lagein, Chair
Towner County Board of Commissioners
7255 94th Street NE
Rock Lake, ND 58365

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Chairman Lagein:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

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As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

The Environmental Report for the proposed abandonment is being prepared pursuant to STB regulations (49 C.F.R. Chapter X, Part 1105) (copy of which is enclosed), the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4332, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6362(b), and related laws including the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451, and the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531. Areas of concern that you and other interested parties are invited to address in your comments include any potential impact of the proposed action on the following:

- Local land use
- Existing local and regional transportation systems
- Energy use
- Air emissions and ambient air quality conditions
- Water quality and wetlands
- Biological resources including threatened or endangered species
- Ambient noise levels
- Public health safety
- Historic, cultural, or archaeological sites listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places
- Socioeconomics, including local and regional employment

We are soliciting your comments with regard to: (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R., Chapter X, Part 1105.7(e)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency.

Specifically, the Board's regulations state that, with respect to the area of concern within the jurisdiction of your agency, Soo Line must address the following.

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(e)(4)(i)-(iv) Energy.

(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources

(ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities.

(iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.

(iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than.

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(B) An average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given. To minimize the production of repetitive data, the information on overall energy efficiency in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iii) need not be supplied if the more detailed information in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iv) is required."

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(ii) If the proposed action affects a class I or non-attainment area under the Clean Air Act."

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(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

(iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)” (emphasis added)

Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

Any comments or information that you provide will be included in Soo Line’s Environmental Report and will be considered by the STB in the preparation of the draft environmental document and in its evaluation of the overall environmental and energy impact of the proposed action. Your cooperation will help ensure that all environmental concerns are thoroughly addressed.

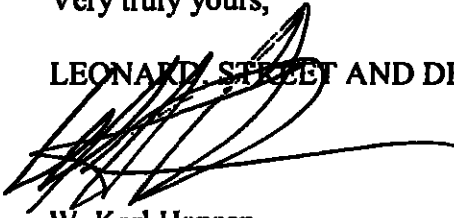
June 13, 2008

Page 5

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'W. Karl Hansen', written over the printed name.

W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

LEONARD
STREET
AND
DEINARD

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Joseph Baker, Chair
Rolette County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 939
County Courthouse
Rolla, ND 58367-0939

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Chairman Baker:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

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As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

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- Historic, cultural, or archaeological sites listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places
- Socioeconomics, including local and regional employment

We are soliciting your comments with regard to. (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R. , Chapter X, Part 1105.7(c)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency.

Specifically, the Board's regulations state that, with respect to the area of concern within the jurisdiction of your agency, Soo Line must address the following.

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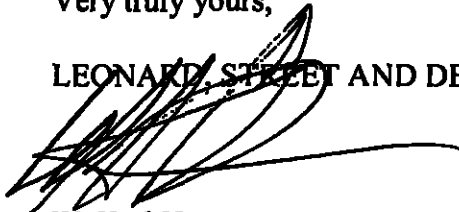
June 13, 2008

Page 5

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LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

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W Karl Hansen

Enclosures

LEONARD
STREET
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150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
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W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Jeff Beyer, Chair
Bottineau County Board of Commissioners
314 West 5th Street
County Courthouse
Bottineau, ND 58318-1204

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

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June 13, 2008

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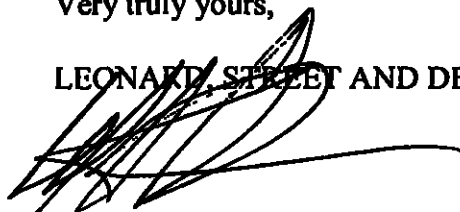
June 13, 2008

Page 5

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Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

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STREET
AND
DEINARD

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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W. KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Robert E Roberts
Regional Administrator
U S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mr Roberts:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

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For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

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- Energy use
- Air emissions and ambient air quality conditions
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- Biological resources including threatened or endangered species
- Ambient noise levels
- Public health safety
- Historic, cultural, or archaeological sites listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places
- Socioeconomics, including local and regional employment

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(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources

(ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities

(iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.

(iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:

(A) 1,000 rail carloads a year; or

(B) An average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given. To minimize the production of repetitive data, the information on overall energy efficiency in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iii) need not be supplied if the more detailed information in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iv) is required."

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Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008 Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

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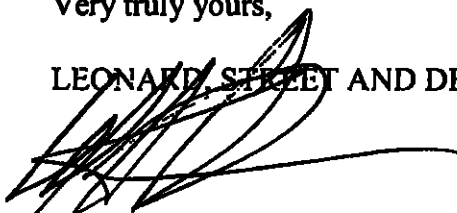
June 13, 2008

Page 5

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Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Karl Hansen', written over the printed name.

W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

Hansen, Karl

From: Hansen, Karl
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2008 5 10 PM
To: 'dana l werner@usace.army.mil'
Subject: FW: Proposed Rail Line Abandonment - St Paul District

Attachments: Proposed Rail Line Abandonment.pdf



Proposed Rail Line
Abandonment...

Dana,

As we discussed this afternoon, please review the forwarded correspondence from Dave Crane with the Omaha District. Please let me know if you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

W Karl Hansen | Leonard, Street and Demard | 150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300 | Minneapolis, MN 55402 | Direct (612) 335-7088 | Main (612) 335-1500 | Facsimile (612) 335-1657 | karl.hansen@leonard.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Crane, David J NWO [<mailto:David.J.Crane@usace.army.mil>]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 3 50 PM
To: Werner, Dana L MVP
Cc: Hansen, Karl
Subject: Proposed Rail Line Abandonment - St Paul District

Hello, Dana I have attached a letter requesting comments on a Proposed Rail Line Abandonment in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It is outside of the Omaha District's Civil Works boundaries so I will not be able to provide a <<Proposed Rail Line Abandonment.pdf>> ny comments. Please provide Mr. Karl Hansen with the appropriate comments regarding this project.

Karl
If you are ever unsure of the USACE District a project is in please visit this site
<http://usace.army.mil/howdoi/where.html>. Here you can type in the zip code the project is in and it will tell you the name and address of the District it is in.

Thanks.

Dave Crane (CENWO-PM-AF)
Environmental Resources Specialist
U S Army Corps of Engineers
1616 Capitol Ave
Omaha, NE 68102
T: (402) 995 2676
F: (402) 995-2711

LEONARD
STREET
AND
DEINARD

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612 335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Ernie Quintana
Regional Director – Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mr. Quintana:

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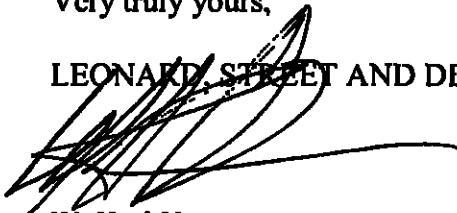
June 13, 2008

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

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STREET
AND
DEINARD

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

David B. Zilkoski
Director
National Geodetic Survey
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910-3282

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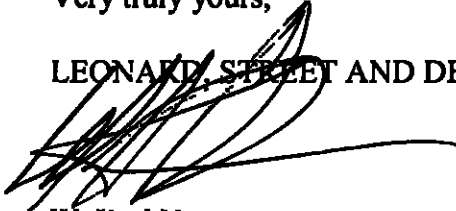
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612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Myron Brandt
Mayor of Kramer
P.O. Box 25
Kramer, ND 58748

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

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(A) 1,000 rail carloads a year, or

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(ii) If the proposed action affects a class I or non-attainment area under the Clean Air Act."

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(ii) An increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area, and

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(iii) If there are known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved ”

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(i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies

(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects

(iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)” (emphasis added)

Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

Any comments or information that you provide will be included in Soo Line's Environmental Report and will be considered by the STB in the preparation of the draft environmental document and in its evaluation of the overall environmental and energy impact of the proposed action. Your cooperation will help ensure that all environmental concerns are thoroughly addressed.

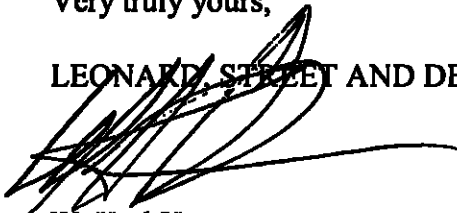
June 13, 2008

Page 5

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

LEONARD
STREET
AND
DEINARD

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Scott Loe
Mayor of Gardena
315 Main Street
Kramer, ND 58748

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mayor Loc:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

The Environmental Report for the proposed abandonment is being prepared pursuant to STB regulations (49 C.F.R. Chapter X, Part 1105) (copy of which is enclosed), the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4332, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6362(b); and related laws including the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451, and the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531. Areas of concern that you and other interested parties are invited to address in your comments include any potential impact of the proposed action on the following:

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- Air emissions and ambient air quality conditions
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- Historic, cultural, or archaeological sites listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places
- Socioeconomics, including local and regional employment

We are soliciting your comments with regard to: (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R., Chapter X, Part 1105.7(e)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency

Specifically, the Board's regulations state that, with respect to the area of concern within the jurisdiction of your agency, Soo Line must address the following:

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(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

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Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008 Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned

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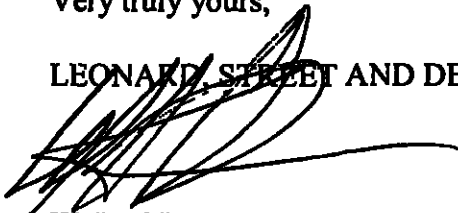
June 13, 2008

Page 5

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Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

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612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARI HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Harvey Wittmayer
Mayor of Overly
149 Anderson Street
Overly, ND 58384

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mayor Wittmayer.

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

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For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

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We are soliciting your comments with regard to (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R., Chapter X, Part 1105.7(e)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency.

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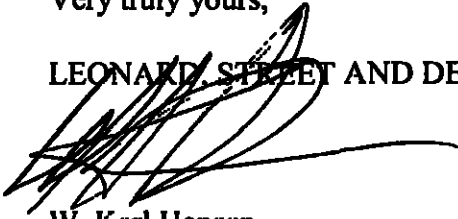
June 13, 2008

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

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612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Larry Schell
Mayor of Mylo
P.O. Box 22
Mylo, ND 58353

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

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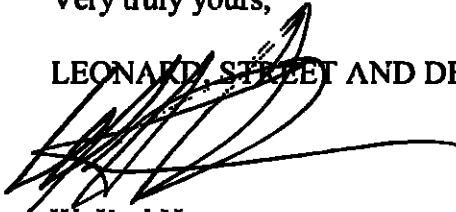
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W. KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

Junc 13, 2008

Paul David
Mayor of Rolette
P.O. Box 38
Rolette, ND 58366

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

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June 13, 2008

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(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

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Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

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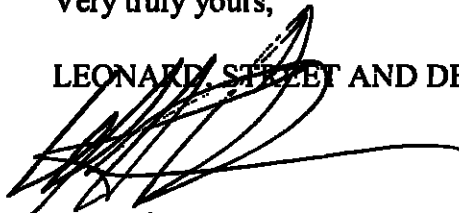
June 13, 2008

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Very truly yours,

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

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150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARI HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Audrey Burell
Mayor of Bisbee
P.O. Box 188
Bisbee, ND 58317

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Mayor Burell:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

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As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

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(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

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Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

Any comments or information that you provide will be included in Soo Line's Environmental Report and will be considered by the STB in the preparation of the draft environmental document and in its evaluation of the overall environmental and energy impact of the proposed action. Your cooperation will help ensure that all environmental concerns are thoroughly addressed.

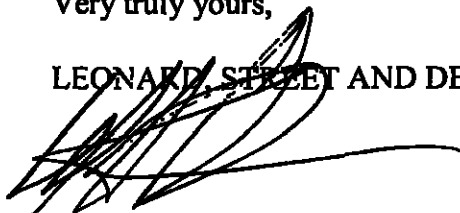
June 13, 2008

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612-335-7088 DIRECT
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June 13, 2008

Francis G. Ziegler, P.E.
Director
North Dakota Department of Transportation
608 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700
701 328-2500

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Director Ziegler.

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U S C Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

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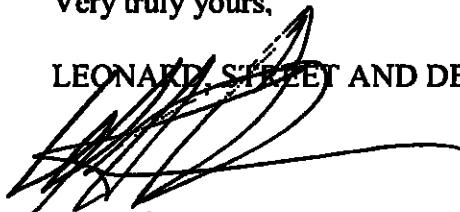
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W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LFONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Mr. Albert I Berger
President
North Dakota State Historical Board
612 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830
701 328-2666

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear President Berger:

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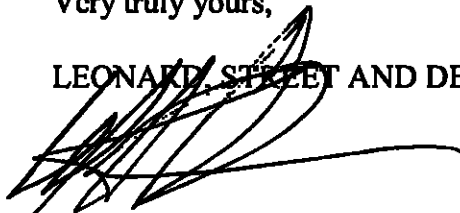
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June 13, 2008

Richard Rude
Cecil Township Board
2540 89th Street Northeast
Overly, ND 58384

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Chairman Rude:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

The Environmental Report for the proposed abandonment is being prepared pursuant to STB regulations (49 C.F.R. Chapter X, Part 1105) (copy of which is enclosed), the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4332; the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6362(b); and related laws including the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451, and the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531. Areas of concern that you and other interested parties are invited to address in your comments include any potential impact of the proposed action on the following.

- Local land use
- Existing local and regional transportation systems
- Energy use
- Air emissions and ambient air quality conditions
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- Biological resources including threatened or endangered species
- Ambient noise levels
- Public health safety
- Historic, cultural, or archaeological sites listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places
- Socioeconomics, including local and regional employment

We are soliciting your comments with regard to: (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R. , Chapter X, Part 1105.7(e)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency.

Specifically, the Board's regulations state that, with respect to the area of concern within the jurisdiction of your agency, Soo Line must address the following:

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(e)(4)(i)-(iv) Energy.

(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources

(ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities

(iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.

(iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:

(A) 1,000 rail carloads a year; or

(B) An average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given. To minimize the production of repetitive data, the information on overall energy efficiency in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iii) need not be supplied if the more detailed information in Section 1105.7(e)(4)(iv) is required."

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(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

(iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)” (emphasis added)

Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

Any comments or information that you provide will be included in Soo Line’s Environmental Report and will be considered by the STB in the preparation of the draft environmental document and in its evaluation of the overall environmental and energy impact of the proposed action. Your cooperation will help ensure that all environmental concerns are thoroughly addressed

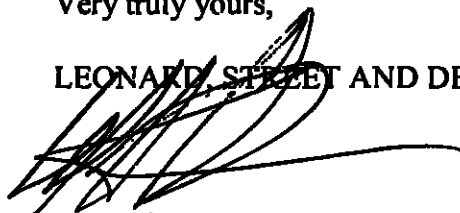
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Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

LEONARD
STREET
AND
DEINARD

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Tim Debele
Elysian Township Board
269 87th Street, N E.
Kramer, ND 58748

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Chairman Debele:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

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For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line.

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

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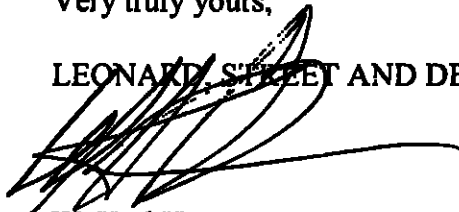
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612-335-1500 MAIN
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W. KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Allen Johnson
Kohlmeier Township Board
8850 28th Avenue
Rolette, ND 58366

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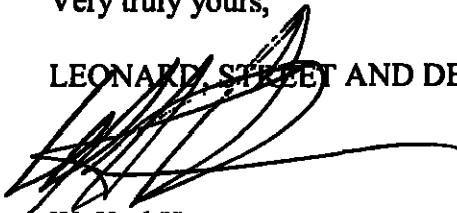
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W KARL HANSEN
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June 13, 2008

Richard Gust
Stone Creek Township Board
P.O. Box 43
Kramer, ND 58748

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(iii) State whether permits under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)” (emphasis added)

Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

Any comments or information that you provide will be included in Soo Line's Environmental Report and will be considered by the STB in the preparation of the draft environmental document and in its evaluation of the overall environmental and energy impact of the proposed action. Your cooperation will help ensure that all environmental concerns are thoroughly addressed

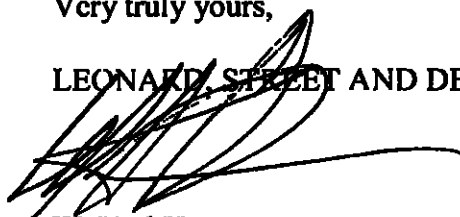
June 13, 2008

Page 5

I thank you very much for your assistance

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Karl Hansen', written over the printed name.

W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

LEONARD
STREET
AND
DEINARD

150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

Dean Milbrath
Oak Creek Township Board
8975 County Road 47
Bottineau, ND 58318

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Chairman Milbrath

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line

Most of the line consists of single and removed track with a right-of-way width ranging between 100 and 600 feet. The right-of-way exists mostly in fee ownership. In addition to the right-of-way, the rail line includes 72 at-grade public road crossings, 19 at-grade private road crossings, and 7 railroad bridges. The proposed action includes the removal of all rails, ties, spikes, plates, railroad-related utilities, and signaling devices. The ballast would remain in place. All equipment and materials that are removed from the line would either be reused, sold as scrap, or disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

The Environmental Report for the proposed abandonment is being prepared pursuant to STB regulations (49 C.F.R. Chapter X, Part 1105) (copy of which is enclosed), the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4332; the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6362(b); and related laws including the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451, and the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531. Areas of concern that you and other interested parties are invited to address in your comments include any potential impact of the proposed action on the following:

- Local land use
- Existing local and regional transportation systems
- Energy use
- Air emissions and ambient air quality conditions
- Water quality and wetlands
- Biological resources including threatened or endangered species
- Ambient noise levels
- Public health safety
- Historic, cultural, or archaeological sites listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places
- Socioeconomics, including local and regional employment

We are soliciting your comments with regard to: (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R. , Chapter X, Part 1105.7(e)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency.

Specifically, the Board's regulations state that, with respect to the area of concern within the jurisdiction of your agency, Soo Line must address the following:

"49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7(c)(4)(i)-(iv) Energy:

(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

(ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities

(iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.

(iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:

(A) 1,000 rail carloads a year; or

(B) An average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given. To minimize the production of repetitive data, the information on overall energy efficiency in Section 1105.7(c)(4)(iii) need not be supplied if the more detailed information in Section 1105.7(c)(4)(iv) is required."

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(ii) An increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the project area, and

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Any written comments should be submitted to the undersigned. They will be appended to the Environmental Report being submitted to the STB if received prior to July 18, 2008. Thereafter, please submit them directly to the Section of Environmental Analysis as follows: SEA, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001, or by calling that office at (202) 565-1526, and forward a copy to the undersigned.

Any comments or information that you provide will be included in Soo Line’s Environmental Report and will be considered by the STB in the preparation of the draft environmental document and in its evaluation of the overall environmental and energy impact of the proposed action. Your cooperation will help ensure that all environmental concerns are thoroughly addressed

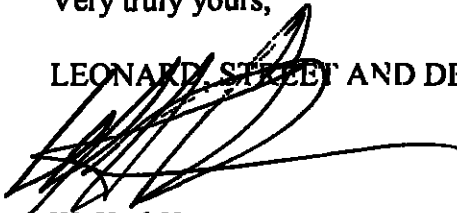
June 13, 2008

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Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STEELE AND DEINARD

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

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STREET
AND
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150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335-1657 FAX

W KARL HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

David Reamer
Willow Vale Township Board
1434 85th Street N E.
Willow City, ND 58384

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Chairman Reamer:

Soo Line Railroad Company ("Soo Line") d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway on or about August 7, 2008, anticipates filing a Notice of Exemption to Abandon pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 10502 with the United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Board (STB) to discontinue and abandon all freight rail operations over approximately 61 miles of rail line located in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. A map of the proposed abandonment is enclosed.

This proposed rail line abandonment notice of exemption requires review by the STB. I will be preparing an Environmental and Historic Report that will provide the basis of the environmental review that the STB's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will conduct for this proceeding. In preparing this report, consultation with agencies or organizations that may have specific interest in or knowledge of the potential environmental impact is essential. This letter is, therefore, intended to solicit your comments regarding the potential environmental impact, if any, of the proposed rail line abandonment.

Your comments on the potential impact of this abandonment will be incorporated into the Environmental Report to be filed on or about July 18, 2008. A copy of this report will be provided to you, after which additional comments can be submitted directly to the SEA.

4464954v1

As shown on the attached map, the line that is proposed to be abandoned is located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), a distance of approximately 61 miles, in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. It traverses through U S Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317.

For purposes of evaluating the environmental impact that would result from abandonment of the line, the proposed action includes discontinuing freight service and salvaging equipment and materials that are present on the line

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The Environmental Report for the proposed abandonment is being prepared pursuant to STB regulations (49 C.F.R Chapter X, Part 1105) (copy of which is enclosed), the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. § 4332; the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6362(b); and related laws including the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. § 470f, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451, and the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531. Areas of concern that you and other interested parties are invited to address in your comments include any potential impact of the proposed action on the following:

- Local land use
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We are soliciting your comments with regard to: (1) any permitting/approval authority which your agency has over the proposed action, and (2) any specific concerns which you believe should be addressed in the STB environmental document prepared after our Report is submitted. As required by applicable STB regulations (49 C.F.R., Chapter X, Part 1105.7(c)(9)(iii)) and Part 1105.7(c), we also request that you comment on and describe the effects, if any, of our proposed action on those resources or areas of concern within the authority of your agency

Specifically, the Board's regulations state that, with respect to the area of concern within the jurisdiction of your agency, Soo Line must address the following:

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(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

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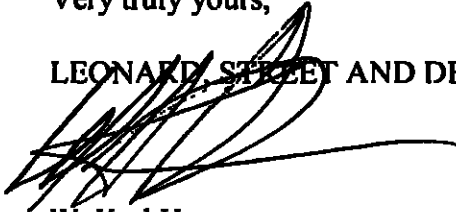
June 13, 2008

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

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150 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 2300
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
612-335-1500 MAIN
612-335 1657 FAX

W. KARI HANSEN
612-335-7088 DIRECT
KARL.HANSEN@LEONARD.COM

June 13, 2008

David Solberg
Head of New City Township Board
5431 82nd Street N.E
Agate, ND 58310

Re: Request for Comments on Potential Environmental Impact of Proposed Rail Line Abandonment Located between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee), in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota (U.S. Postal Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317) - STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)

Dear Chairman Solberg

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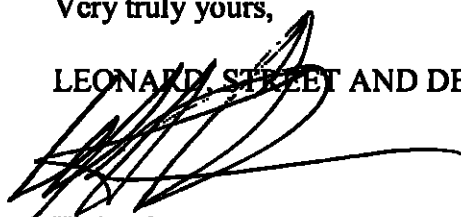
June 13, 2008

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Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

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W. Karl Hansen

Enclosures

Exhibit No. 5
Historic Report

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

SOO LINE RAILROAD COMPANY – ABANDONMENT OF TRACKAGE LOCATED IN BOTTINEAU, ROLETTE, AND TOWNER COUNTIES, NORTH DAKOTA	)))))	DOCKET NO. AB-57 (SUB-NO. 56X)
---	-----------------------	---

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION TO ABANDON PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50
A 61 +/- MILE LINE OF RAILROAD BETWEEN MILEPOST 535 +/- (IN KRAMER) AND
MILEPOST 474.5 (IN BISBEE) WHICH TRAVERSES THROUGH UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE ZIP CODES 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, AND 58317 IN BOTTINEAU,
ROLETTE, AND TOWNER COUNTIES, NORTH DAKOTA**

**HISTORIC REPORT
IN COMPLIANCE WITH
49 C.F.R. SECTION 1105.8**

**SOO LINE RAILROAD COMPANY
d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway)**

**LEONARD, STREET and DEINARD
Professional Association
W. Karl Hansen
150 South Fifth Street, Suite 2300
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Tel (612) 335-7088
Fax. (612) 335-1657**

**Attorney for Applicant
Service Date: July 23, 2008**

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

SOO LINE RAILROAD COMPANY –	)	
ABANDONMENT OF TRackage	)	
LOCATED IN BOTTINEAU, ROLETTE,	)	DOCKET NO AB-57
AND TOWNER COUNTIES, NORTH	)	(SUB-NO. 56X)
DAKOTA	)	

HISTORIC REPORT

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Sections 1105.7(c) and 1105.8, Soo Line Railroad Company hereby submits the following Historic Report regarding the Verified Notice of Exemption to Abandon a 61 +/- Mile Line of Railroad Between Milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and Milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee) That Traverses Through United States Postal Service Zip Codes 58748, 58384, 58366, 58353, and 58317 in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota

Section 1105.8(c) Distribution: The applicant must send the Historic Report to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer(s), preferably at least 60 days in advance of filing the application, petition, or notice, but not later than 20 days prior to filing with the Board.

See Certificate of Service effecting service on July 23, 2008, attached as Exhibit No. 1 to Environmental Report.

Section 1105.8(d)(1)-(8) Content: The Historic Report should contain the information required by § 1105.7(e)(1) (Environmental Report - See Preceding Report) and the following additional historic information:

Section 1105.8(d)(1) U.S.G.S. Topographic Maps. A U.S.G.S. topographic map (or an alternate map drawn to scale and sufficiently detailed to show buildings and other structures in the vicinity of the proposed action) showing the location of the proposed action, and the locations and approximate dimensions of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older and are part of the proposed action;

See Appendices A and B.

Section 1105.8(d)(2) Right-of-Way: A written description of the right-of-way (including approximate widths, to the extent known), and the topography and urban and/or rural characteristics of the surrounding area;

The right-of-way to be abandoned runs for approximately 61 miles, ranging between 100 to 600 feet in width, and passes through the following ground stations from west to east: Spur 531, Gardena, Omamee, Tasco, Overly, Fonda, Rolette, Umbria, Mylo, and Agate. The station grounds at Spur 531, Omamee, Tasco, Fonda, Umbria, and Mylo are now vacant. Properties along the line include cropland, residential, commercial, and vacant land. The commercial areas (elevators, anhydrous storage, a gas station, and warehouses) are predominately located within the station limits of Gardena, Overly, Rolette, and Agate.

Section 1105.8(d)(3) Photographs: Good quality photographs (actual photographic prints, not photocopies) of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area;

The only readily available photographs in the carrier's possession are included in Appendix C.

Section 1105.8(d)(4): The dates of construction of the structure(s), and the date(s) and extent of any major alterations, to the extent such information is known.

The bridge structures remaining on the line are listed in the table below. The North Dakota State Historical Board was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no response has been received to date.

Structure number	Location	Number of spans	Length in feet	Type of bridge	Date of construction or major alteration
493.57	East of Rolette, ND	6	82	Open deck pile trestle	Redecked in 1984
509.45	East of Overly, ND	5	67	Open deck pile trestle	Redecked in 1987
519.59	Omamee, ND	6	82	Open deck pile trestle	Redecked in 1987
523.22	East of Gardena, ND	8	106	Open deck pile trestle	Redecked in 1982
524.04	East of Gardena, ND	3	40	Open deck pile trestle	Redecked in 1987
530.95	West of Gardena, ND	3	41	Open deck pile trestle	Redecked in 1962
533.34	East of Kramer, ND	6	82	Open deck pile trestle	Built in 1971

Section 1105.8(d)(5) History: A brief narrative history of carrier operations in the area, and an explanation of what, if any, changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action.

In 1905, the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railroad acquired tracts of land between the towns of Kramer to Bisbee, North Dakota and constructed the Wheat Line, a single mainline track running in a west-east direction. Many of the smaller towns along the track were platted by the railroad and became established by the presence of grain elevators that were leased to local farmer cooperatives. The trains, both passenger and freight (primarily grain), began service in 1905. Passenger service continued until 1962. Freight traffic continued infrequently until it stopped in 2000. There has been no rail traffic on the line since and no changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action.

Section 1105.8(d)(6) Documents: A brief summary of documents in the carrier's possession, such as engineering drawings, that might be useful in documenting a structure that is found to be historic.

The carrier's files consist primarily of maps and photos of the line, some engineering drawings, and maintenance records. Canadian Pacific Railway purchased the assets of the Soo Line Railroad Company in 1990. Northern Plains Railroad took over operation of the line in 1997, limiting the historic documentation in the possession of the carrier.

Section 1105.8(d)(7) Opinion An opinion (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) as to whether the site and/or structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (36 C.F.R. § 60.4), and whether there is a likelihood of archaeological resources or any other previously unknown historic properties in the project area, and the basis for these opinions (including any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office, local historical societies or universities).

It is the opinion of the railroad that this line would not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The North Dakota State Historical Board was contacted by letter on June 13, 2008, but no response has been received to date.

Section 1105.8(d)(8) Archaeological Resources. A description (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) of any known prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, environmental conditions (naturally occurring or manmade) that might affect the archaeological recovery of resources (such as swampy conditions or the presence of toxic wastes), and the surrounding terrain.

There are no known ground disturbances or fills other than those which would have occurred during original construction of this line and any subsequent maintenance or rehabilitation. There are no known toxic waste areas within the right-of-way of this railroad line.

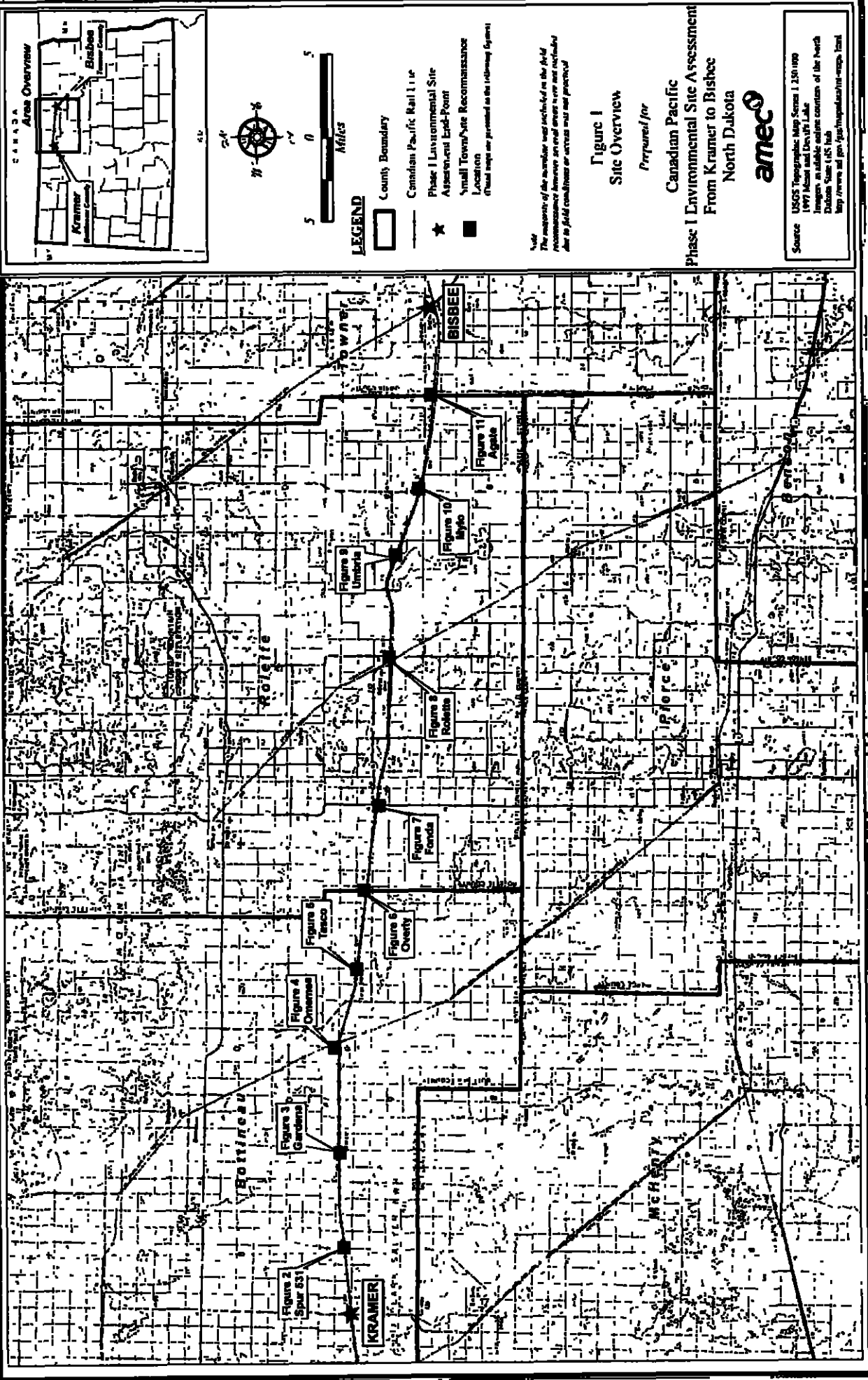
The following excerpt from ICC document *Assessment of Environmental Impacts Associated with Railroad Abandonment Proposals* discusses archeological evaluations:

"Salvaging an abandoned railroad line is normally confined to the limits of the right of way and rarely involves major excavation work. If the right of way is to be leveled at all, only the roadbed built up during actual construction of the line would be affected. It is unlikely that there are any historic track structures under the roadbed since old rails and ties are salvaged during maintenance and rehabilitation operations. Likewise, there is usually neither significant damage to the vegetation found within the right of way nor any effect on land adjacent to the railroad property. By confining salvage operations of a rail line as discussed

above, it is not anticipated that any archaeological sites in or immediately adjacent to the right of way, would be affected by the abandonment "

END OF REPORT

Appendix A
Consolidated U.S.G.S. Topographic Map



Source
USGS Topographic Map Series 1:250,000
1997 Aerial and Satellite Imagery
Imagery is available online courtesy of the North
Dakota State GIS Unit
http://www.nd.gov/gis/imagery/imagery.html

amec

North Dakota

From Kramer to Bisbee

Canadian Pacific

Prepared for

Site Overview

Figure 1

Note
The numbers of the locations are indicated in the field
reconnaissance however, an end point was not reached
due to field conditions or access was not practical

LEGEND

County Boundary

Canadian Pacific Railroad

Phase I Environmental Site

Assessment End-Point

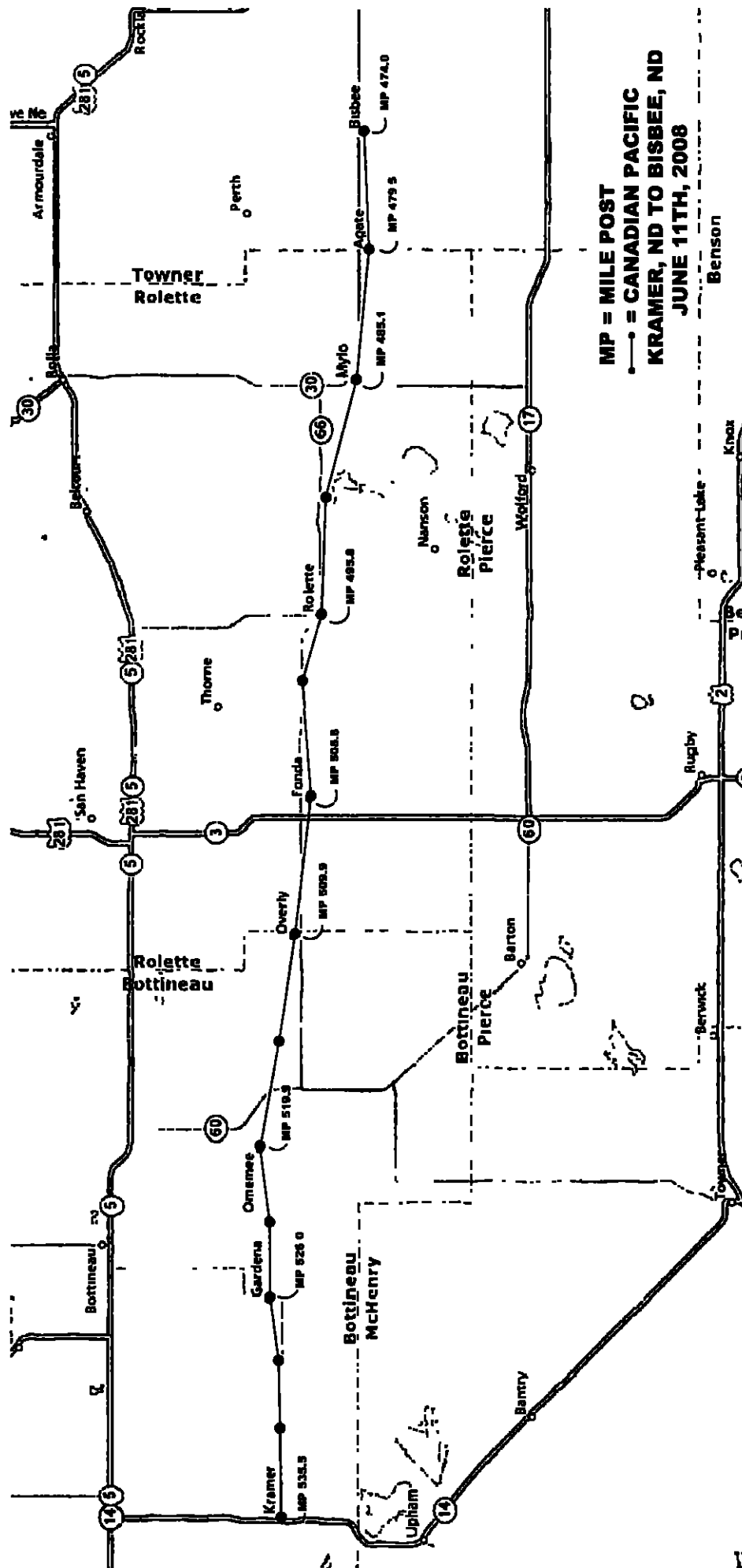
Small Town/Village

Location

(Field maps are presented in the following format)

Appendix B
Location Map

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Appendix C
Photographs of Railroad Structures

Northern Plains Railroad

Bisbee Subdivision

Bridge # 493.57 East of Rolette, North Dakota

Milepost: 493.57

GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION Section 1 of 1

Bridge Type: Open Deck Pile Trestle

Length: 82'

Maximum Height: 6'

Number of Spans: 6 Number of Timber Bents: 7 Number of Timber Piers: 0

E-Rating Section 1 of 1

Stringer Capacity: *Ratings are based on the bending capacity of un-decayed, wet southern yellow pine.
DECAY CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF A STRINGER CHORD.
All ratings were performed in accordance to AREMA Chapter 7.
Car loadings are based off of Southern Pacific 263k coal car axle spacing.*

Spans OK for 286,000 lb cars*

Spans overloaded by 286,000 lb cars

Spans 1-6

None

RECOMMENDED REPAIRS

Within 4 years

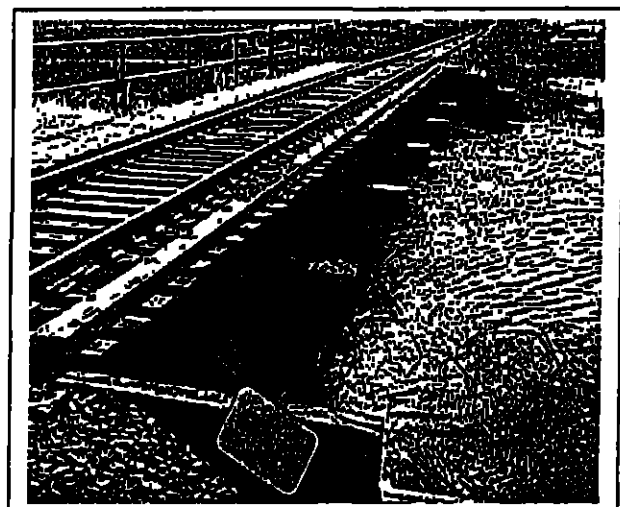
1. Replace the caps on Bents 4&6.

Annual Maintenance

1. Perform annual bridge inspection.
2. Tamp up bridge approaches.
3. Monitor the cap on Bent 2.
4. Monitor the erosion at the northwest corner of the bridge.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

- 1) Bent 2 - Horizontal split in cap.
- 2) Bent 4 - 1/4" vertical split in cap.
- 3) Bent 6 - 1/4" vertical split in cap.
- 4) Minor erosion in the northwest corner of the bridge.



Br. 493.57 General View

Inspected on 5/18/99 by

E80
CONSTRUCTORS, LLC

Inspectors:
Pete Schlerloh, Project Engineer
Doug Hills, Project Manager

Northern Plains Railroad

Bisbee Subdivision

Bridge # 509.45 East of Overly, North Dakota

Milepost: 509.45

GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION Section 1 of 1

Bridge Type: Open Deck Pile Trestle

Length: 67'

Maximum Height: 12'

Number of Spans: 5 Number of Timber Bents: 6 Number of Timber Piers: 0

E-Rating Section 1 of 1

Stringer Capacity: *Ratings are based on the bending capacity of un-decayed, wet southern yellow pine.
DECAY CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF A STRINGER CHORD.
All ratings were performed in accordance to AREMA Chapter 7.
Car loadings are based off of Southern Pacific 263k coal car axle spacing.*

Spans OK for 286,000 lb cars*

Spans overloaded by 286,000 lb cars

Spans 1-5

None

RECOMMENDED REPAIRS

Within 3 years

1. Shim over piles in Bents 4&5.
2. Shim between the stringer and cap on Bents 2&6.

Within 5 years

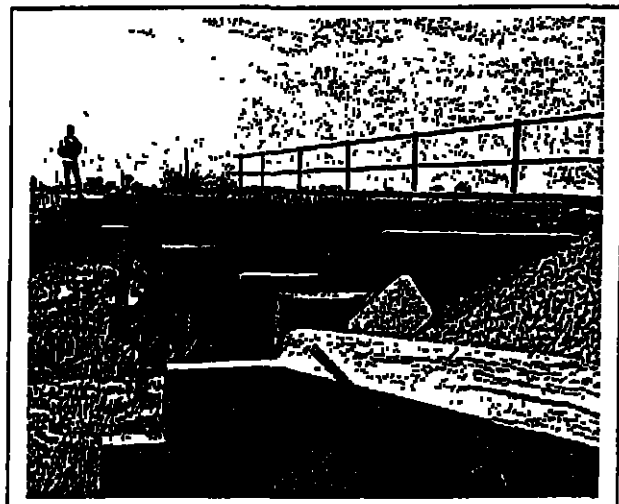
1. In-place treat bridge.

Annual Maintenance

1. Perform annual bridge inspection.
2. Tamp up bridge approaches.
3. Monitor Bent 4 for movement due to scour.
4. Monitor stringer parting lines over Bent 4.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

- 1) Bent 2 - ¼" gap under stringer ply 1.
- 2) Bent 4 - There is an ¼" gap over Piles 2,3,&4.
- 3) Bent 4 - Stringer 6 has only 2" of bearing on bent cap.
- 4) Bent 5 - There is an ¼" gap over Pile 3.
- 5) Bent 6 - 1" shim on the back of cap is missing.
- 6) Decay voids were located on this bridge.



Br. 509.45 General View

Inspected on 5/18/99 by

E80
CONSTRUCTORS, LLC

Inspectors:
Pete Schierloh, Project Engineer
Doug Hills, Project Manager

Northern Plains Railroad

Bisbee Subdivision

Bridge # 519.59 In Omamee, North Dakota

Milepost: 519.59

GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION Section 1 of 1

Bridge Type: Open Deck Pile Trestle

Length: 82'

Maximum Height: 9'

Number of Spans: 6 Number of Timber Bents: 7 Number of Timber Piers: 0

E-Rating Section 1 of 1

Stringer Capacity: *Ratings are based on the bending capacity of un-decayed, wet southern yellow pine.
DECAY CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF A STRINGER CHORD.
All ratings were performed in accordance to AREMA Chapter 7.
Car loadings are based off of Southern Pacific 263k coal car axle spacing.*

Spans OK for 286,000 lb cars*
Spans 1-6

Spans overloaded by 286,000 lb cars
None

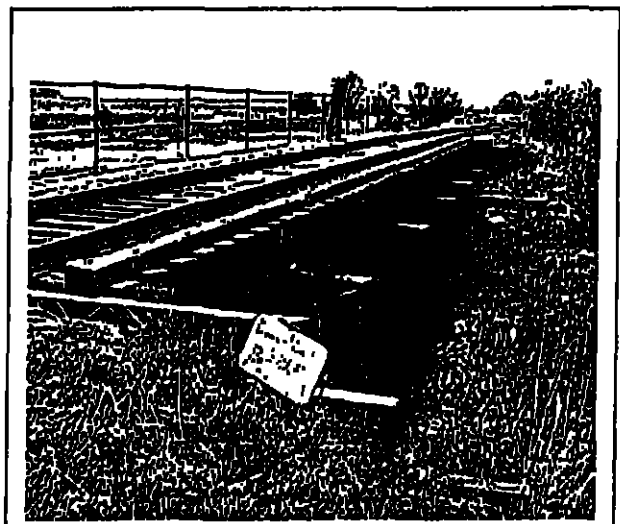
RECOMMENDED REPAIRS

Annual Maintenance

1. Perform annual bridge inspection.
2. Tamp up bridge approaches.
3. Monitor the condition of caps on Bents 3,4,5.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

- 1) Bent 3 - Vertical split in cap.
- 2) Bent 4 - Vertical split in cap.
- 2) Bent 5 - Vertical split in cap.



Br. 519.59 General View

Inspected on 5/18/99 by

E80
CONSTRUCTIONS, LLC

Inspectors:
Pete Schlerich, Project Engineer
Doug Hills, Project Manager

Northern Plains Railroad

Bisbee Subdivision

Bridge # 523.22 East of Gardena, North Dakota

Milepost: 523.22

GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION Section 1 of 1

Bridge Type: Open Deck Pile Trestle

Length: 106'

Maximum Height: 6'

Number of Spans: 8 Number of Timber Bents: 9 Number of Timber Piers: 0

E-Rating Section 1 of 1

Stringer Capacity: *Ratings are based on the bending capacity of un-decayed, wet southern yellow pine.
DECAY CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF A STRINGER CHORD.
All ratings were performed in accordance to AREMA Chapter 7.
Car loadings are based off of Southern Pacific 263k coal car axle spacing.*

Spans OK for 286,000 lb cars*

Spans overloaded by 286,000 lb cars

Spans 1-8

None

RECOMMENDED REPAIRS

Within 3 years

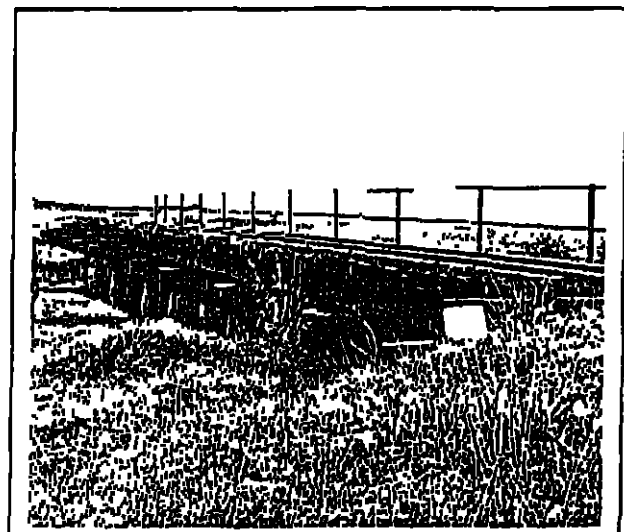
1. Shim under Stringer 1 over Bent 1.

Annual Maintenance

1. Perform annual bridge inspection.
2. Tamp up bridge approaches.
3. Monitor the condition of cap on Bent 4.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

- 1) Bent 1 - 1/4" gap under stringer ply 1.
- 2) Bent 4 - Minor vertical split in cap.



Br. 523.22 General View

Inspected on 5/18/99 by

E80
plus
CONSTRUCTORS, LLC

Inspectors:
Pete Schierich, Project Engineer
Doug Hills, Project Manager

Northern Plains Railroad

Bisbee Subdivision

Bridge # 524.04 East of Gardena, North Dakota

Milepost: 524.04

GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION Section 1 of 1

Bridge Type: Open Deck Pile Trestle

Length: 40'

Maximum Height: 7'

Number of Spans: 3 Number of Timber Bents: 4 Number of Timber Piers: 0

E-Rating Section 1 of 1

Stringer Capacity: *Ratings are based on the bending capacity of un-decayed, wet southern yellow pine*
DECAY CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF A STRINGER CHORD.
All ratings were performed in accordance to AREMA Chapter 7
Car loadings are based off of Southern Pacific 263k coal car axle spacing.

Spans OK for 286,000 lb cars*

Spans overloaded by 286,000 lb cars

Spans 1-3

None

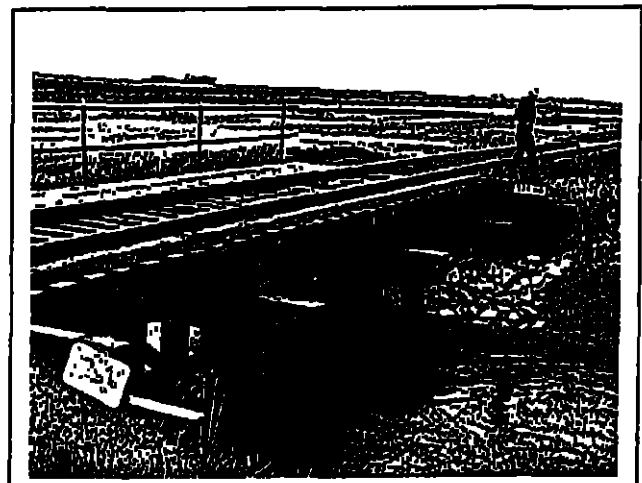
RECOMMENDED REPAIRS

Annual Maintenance

1. Perform annual bridge inspection.
2. Tamp up bridge approaches.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

- 1) No significant defects were located.



Br. 524.04 General View

Inspected on 5/18/99 by

E80
CONSTRUCTORS, LLC

Inspectors:
Pete Schlerloh, Project Engineer
Doug Hills, Project Manager

Northern Plains Railroad

Bisbee Subdivision

Bridge # 530.95 West of Gardena, North Dakota

Milepost: 530.95

GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION Section 1 of 1

Bridge Type: Open Deck Pile Trestle

Length: 41'

Maximum Height: 8'

Number of Spans: 3 Number of Timber Bents: 4 Number of Timber Piers: 0

E-Rating Section 1 of 1

Stringer Capacity: *Ratings are based on the bending capacity of un-decayed, wet southern yellow pine.*

DECAY CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF A STRINGER CHORD.

All ratings were performed in accordance to AREMA Chapter 7.

Car loadings are based off of Southern Pacific 263k coal car axle spacing.

Spans OK for 286,000 lb cars*

Spans overloaded by 286,000 lb cars

Spans 1-3

None

RECOMMENDED REPAIRS

Annual Maintenance

1. Perform annual bridge inspection.
2. Tamp up bridge approaches.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

- 1) No significant defects were located.



Br. 530.95 General View

Inspected on 5/18/99 by

E80
plus
CONSTRUCTORS, LLC

Inspectors:
Pete Schlerich, Project Engineer
Doug Hills, Project Manager

Northern Plains Railroad

Bisbee Subdivision

Bridge # 533.34 East of Kramer, North Dakota

Milepost: 533.34

GENERAL BRIDGE INFORMATION Section 1 of 1

Bridge Type: Open Deck Pile Trestle

Length: 82'

Maximum Height: 12'

Number of Spans: 6 Number of Timber Bents: 7 Number of Timber Piers: 0

E-Rating Section 1 of 1

Stringer Capacity: *Ratings are based on the bending capacity of un-decayed, wet southern yellow pine.
DECAY CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE STRENGTH OF A STRINGER CHORD.
All ratings were performed in accordance to AREMA Chapter 7.
Car loadings are based off of Southern Pacific 263k coal car axle spacing.*

Spans OK for 286,000 lb cars*

Spans overloaded by 286,000 lb cars

Spans 1-6

None

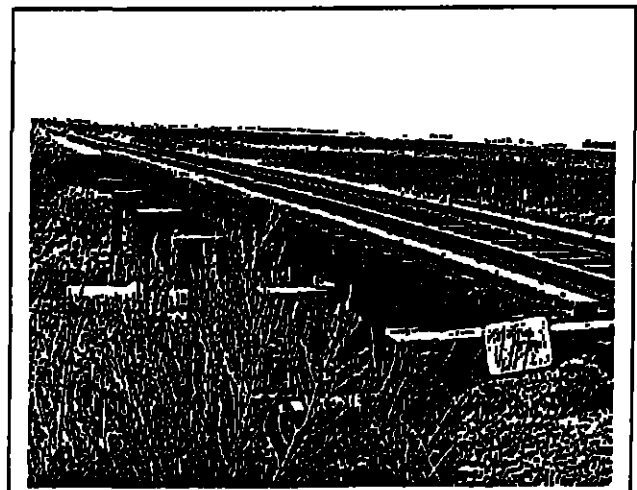
RECOMMENDED REPAIRS

Annual Maintenance

1. Perform annual bridge inspection.
2. Tamp up bridge approaches.
3. Monitor the cap on Bents 3.
4. Monitor the condition of ties.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

- 1) Bent 3 - Some vertical splits in the cap.
- 2) Ties are in fair condition.



Br. 533.34 General View

Inspected on 5/18/99 by

E80
plus
CONSTRUCTORS, LLC

Inspectors:
Pete Schlerloh, Project Engineer
Doug Hills, Project Manager