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Office of Proceedings
May 23, 2018
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May 23, 2018

VIA E-FILING

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

Re: FD 36178
Metropolitan Council - Petition for Declaratory Order

Dear Ms. Brown,

In a Decision served May 22, 2018 ("Decision"), the Surface Transportation Board ("Board") instituted a declaratory order in the above proceeding and established a procedural schedule for the submission of reply statements and public comments. The Decision noted that the "Board favors the resolution of disputes through the use of mediation and arbitration procedures, in lieu of formal Board proceedings, whenever possible." Decision at 3. The Decision requested the parties to inform the Board if the parties are amendable to mediation.

Twin Cities & Western Railroad Company ("TCW") is writing to notify the Board that it desires to participate in Board sponsored mediation to attempt to resolve the dispute among the involved parties. TCW is hopeful that both Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority and Metropolitan Council will likewise be amendable to Board sponsored mediation.

Sincerely,



William A. Mullins

cc: Parties of Record