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DULUTH *MISSABE* AND IRON RANGE RAILWAY COMPANY

MISSABE BUILDING • DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55802

August 19, 2003

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary of the Board
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Office of Proceedings

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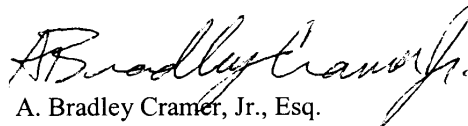
Re: STB No. AB-101 (Sub-No. 17X)
Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway Company's Abandonment of the Sliver
Branch in St. Louis County, Minnesota

Dear Secretary Williams:

Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway Company's (DM&IR) abandonment of the Sliver Branch is underway. The anticipated completion date is August 22, 2003. However, because DM&IR must file its notice of consummation by August 23, 2003, an extension of time to file the notice of consummation is requested. By copy of this correspondence, DM&IR respectfully requests an extension of time to September 23, 2003 to file the notice of consummation in the above-referenced matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 412-829-6860 if you would like to discuss this request in greater detail; otherwise, please direct responsive correspondence to my attention at 135 Jamison Lane, P.O. Box 68, Monroeville, PA 15146. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


A. Bradley Cramer, Jr., Esq.

Counsel for
Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range
Railway Company