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August 14, 2026

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VIA E-FILING

Chief of Case Administration
Office of Chief Counsel
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
August 14, 2026
Part of
Public Record

**Re: Docket No. AB 497 (Sub-No. 8X)
Minnesota Northern Railroad, Inc.—Abandonment
Exemption—in Norman and Polk Counties, MN**

To the Chief of Case Administration:

In response to the request for issuance of a Public Use Condition (“PUC”) and request for issuance of a Notice of Interim Trail Use Condition (“NITU”) filed by Keith Berndt, P.E. of the Norman County (MN) Highway Department (“Norman County”) on August 6, 2026, Minnesota Northern Railroad, Inc. (“MNN”) does not object to the issuance of a PUC, so long as the condition would not preclude MNN from salvaging the rail, ties and other track materials comprising the right of way to be abandoned in keeping with anticipated Board salvage requirements. MNN is also amenable to negotiating an interim trails use agreement with Norman County, and accordingly, consents to issuance of the requested NITU.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Healey
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cc: Keith Berndt, P.E.

TJH/th