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CG
FD 33407

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001
Section of Environmental Analysis

August 25, 2009

Mr. Jay D. Vogt
State Historic Preservation Officer
South Dakota State Historical Society
900 Governors Drive
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2217

Re: **STB Finance Docket No. 33407: Final Historic District Treatment Plan for the Winona & Saint Peter/Dakota Central Railroad Historic District (Ref. SHPO Project No. 080515042F; LBG Report MNSD1)**

Dear Jay D. Vogt:

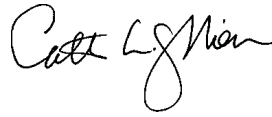
The Surface Transportation Board (STB) is pleased to provide you with the Final Historic District Treatment Plan for the Winona & Saint Peter/Dakota Central Railroad Historic District. The treatment plan lays out agreed upon measures to mitigate any adverse effects that could result from the Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern Railroad (DM&E) Project to the historic district. It has been revised in response to your July 8, 2008 comments as well as comments received from the Minnesota SHPO. Copies of this treatment plan are also being mailed to the Minnesota SHPO and other Section 106 consulting parties under separate cover.

Please note that the plan does not include treatment provisions for any railroad-related archaeological sites. While we feel it would have been ideal to include all historic properties related to the railroading context in this plan, we have yet to complete archaeological field investigations at these sites. We anticipate that this work will be completed later this fall or possibly next spring. Once this work is completed and the eligibility of those sites has been determined, we will incorporate suggested treatments for those properties as an addendum to this plan (see Section D.1 of the PA).

As a note of clarification: STB does not have jurisdiction over railroad owned historic properties and cannot impose conditions that would require long term management over such resources. Consequently, we do not have the authority to force DM&E to provide long term management of railroad related properties under their ownership. Any such management plan would have to be developed by DM&E on a voluntary basis.

You have an additional thirty (30) days to review the treatment plan pursuant to Section C.2 of the Section 106 Project Programmatic Agreement (PA). If you have additional questions or comments regarding the treatment plan, please contact me by email, gliddenc@stb.dot.gov, or telephone at (202) 245-0293.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine L. Glidden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Catherine" being more prominent than the last name "Glidden".

Catherine L. Glidden
Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures: Final Historic District Treatment Plan; July 8, 2008 Letter

Cc: (letter only)

Victoria Rutson, STB
Randy Withrow, Louis Berger Group
Kate Nelson, SD SHPO
Paige Hoskinson-Olson, SD SHPO
Dennis A. Gimmestad, MN SHPO
Herb Jones, DM&E
Joe Trnka, HDR