



EI-21178

CITY OF MILES CITY

17 S. 8th, P.O. Box 910
Miles City, MT 59301-0910

Telephone: 406-234-3462
Fax: 406-234-2903

November 12, 2015

Kenneth Blodgett
Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-001

Attention: Office of Environmental Analysis, Docket # 30186

Dear Mr. Blodgett,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your letter dated November 5, 2015, which requests the City of Miles City's concurrence with a Section 4(f) *de minimis* impact finding for the Spotted Eagle Recreation Area (SERA).

Pursuant to your request, the City of Miles City understands and agrees that impacts to the Spotted Eagle Recreation Area may be determined as *de minimis* if the use of the Section 4(f) property does not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f).

Mitigation measure(s) to minimize harm may include, but are not limited to:

- installation and maintenance of tree buffers
- ensure water flow between the Miles City Fish Hatchery and SERA
- provide Operation Lifesaver rail safety education programs to the public
- additional measure not yet identified

The City also agrees that a *de minimis* finding is appropriate, contingent on the implementation of mitigation measure that will be recommended in the Final EIS.

Respectfully,

Chris A. Grenz, Mayor