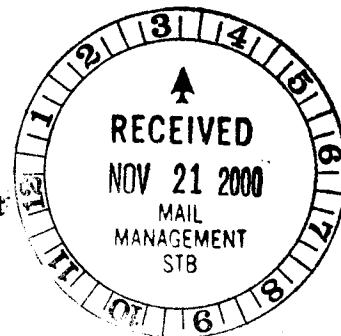




SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Section of Environmental Analysis

DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project
Draft Environmental Impact Statement



COMMENT SHEET

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Comments may be submitted today or mailed to:

Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit
STB Finance Docket No. 33407
Office of the Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001
Attn: Victoria Rutson

NOV 29 2000

Part of
Public Record

Please provide any comments on the DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project Draft EIS.

We are opposed to the DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project plan to construct Alternative M-2. We do not have objection to construction of the Alternative M-3 on the existing rail line. It is the by-pass proposal which we adamantly oppose. We have several major concerns: (1) Within the last 10 yrs. residents ~~are~~ no longer use private wells as a municipal water main was installed & those pipes are in part buried along the railbed of the former site along the proposed M-2 alternative. These mains would be vulnerable to cracking and breakage. (2) With 30-31 trains passing daily homes - particularly in the lower elevation areas - would be constantly subjected to diesel exhaust air pollution and noise pollution. (3) In addition ground pollution from oil, fuel, and other contaminants is a threat. (4) Routing through rural residential areas creates hazardous conditions for children in the neighborhood. (5) Noise and vibration create constant annoyance for households. (6) Vibration from constant rail traffic will impact the stability of many of the existing houses that are located on this former flood plain & foundations.

Additional comments: and existing building will be further
compromised by constant shaking and jarring.
②. A good many residents are elderly and/or disabled
as I am and the need for relocation would be a considerable
hardship. ③ There is little chance of finding comparable building
site or residence suited for a handicapped person in
addition this has been our home for more than 65 years. For
the above stated reasons I am adamant in my opposition
to implementing your Alternates Route 2 for your
railway.

James B. English

2000



Attn: Victoria Rutson
Environmental Project Manager
Environmental Filing

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