

Surface Transportation Board
Office of the secretary
Case Control Unit
Att: STB FD#33407
1925 K St. NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001
Attention: Victoria Rutson, Environmental Project Manager

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ENTERED
Office of the Secretary

November 14, 2000

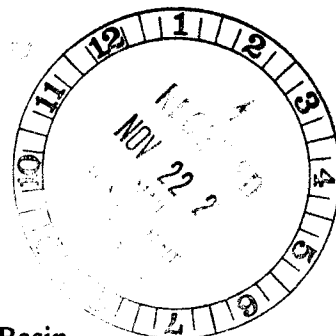
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Dear Ms. Rutson:

A Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) concerning the Powder River Basin Expansion Project of the DM&E Railroad was recently completed. As it relates to the trackage in the Mankato area, the DEIS concluded that the environmentally preferred route is the alternative M-2 route, commonly referred to as the Southern By-Pass Route.

This is a very controversial recommendation, and I would like to share my opinion with you and the Surface Transportation Board.

Opinion: THIS ROUTE WILL HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE ENTIRE
AREA - THE ENVIROMENT, LAND EROSION, AIR POLLUTION, HOMES TAKEN, E
(See back for further comments)

Name (please print) ROBERT + GRACE RAWSON

Address 45 Skyline Dr. **City** MANKATO **State** MN **ZIP** 56001

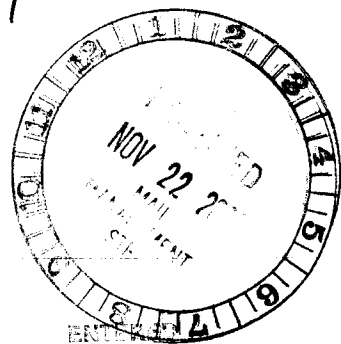
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Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit
STB Finance Docket No. 33047
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Attention: Victoria Rutson
Environmental Project Manager
Environmental Filing

Dear Ms. Rutson,

I am writing to request your consideration for an extension of the 90 day review time for the STB Finance Docket No. 33407/ EIS Draft, DM&E Railroad Project.

Since this is a very lengthy document to review and most persons reading this 2000 page document are working citizens trying to read in their spare time, we would ask that there be some consideration given to this matter.

It took a great deal of time for the STB to write this lengthy dEIS report and so we are sure that you will understand when we say we need a little more time than just 90 days. Plus the fact that this 90 day time frame will fall over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We ask that you extend the period 180 days after the Jan. 5, 2001 deadline.

Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Rawson
Robert Rawson