

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

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 proposal would destroy several homes and businesses and should be avoided. The most devastating
(See back for further comments)

Name (please print) Thomas J. Biever

Address 134 S. Skyline Drive City Mankato State MN ZIP 56001

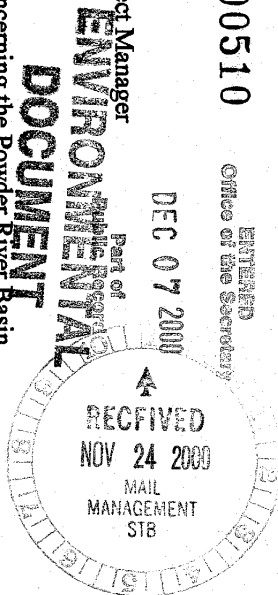
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November 14, 2000

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idea is that Dr. Joseph Eckert who was a personal physician to
Pres. John F. Kennedy during his term, after having served his country
in a wide variety of medical efforts, is now going to lose his
home to this project. If this project goes through as planned
there will also be heavy environmental destruction. Many endangered
plants would be lost. Nesting boxes of American Osprey and
other wild life lost. Please reject the DM+E proposal altogether
and consider other alternative shipping means or routes.