

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 Mill 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: We feel that there is evidence that those who would salvage our hillside and damage our river valley
(over)

(See back for further comments)

Name (please print) Helen M.D. Purcell

Address 332 W Skyline Ct City Mankato State MN ZIP 56001

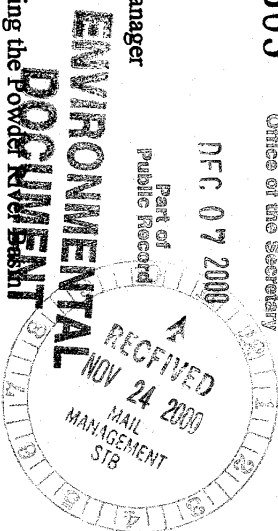
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if the banks that have been here for centuries
are disturbed. We have many trees on these
banks to hold it in place. If they are disturbed
erosion will take over. I have watched the
erosion problems that have taken place in this
valley when the cliffs and banks are disturbed
for streets.

Thank you for your consideration
Helen M. Duncan Furcell