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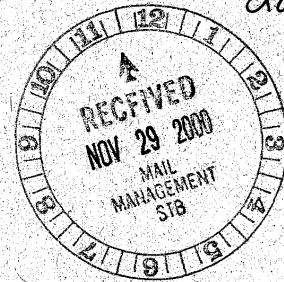
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November 25, 2000



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

**ENVIRONMENTAL
DOCUMENT**

Dear Ms. Rutson:

I understand that the DM&E Railroad plans to build a new railroad line around the northwest corner of the Pine Ridge Reservation. I strongly oppose this proposal for the following reasons:

1. This is a violation of the Fort Laramie Treaties of 1851 and 1868.
2. The Black Hills Sioux Nation Treaty Council and the OST Council has already passed a resolution opposing the building of this railroad line but have been ignored.
3. Air pollutants created by surface mining of coal in the Powder River Basin in Wyoming is carried by the wind and is causing increased air pollution in the Black Hills and the Pine Ridge Reservation.
4. Air pollutants created by surface mining of coal in the Powder River Basin in Wyoming could cause acid rain in the Black Hills and the Pine Ridge Reservation.
5. The DM&E Railroad, with its many trains, will cause increased air pollution of coal dust, diesel fumes, and exhaust on the Pine Ridge Reservation.
6. The DM&E Railroad will increase the chance of fires on the northwestern portion of the reservation and in Red Shirt Village.
7. The land on which the DM&E railroad track is to be built contains historic massacre sites.
8. The DM&E Railroad track and its trains will stop the migratory path of the pronghorn antelope back to their winter home in the Black Hills.

9. The land that the DM&E railroad track is to be built on is shale, which is very unstable and causes landslides among other things.

I urge you to put a stop to this illegal and racist proposal immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barry J. [unclear]", written in dark ink.