

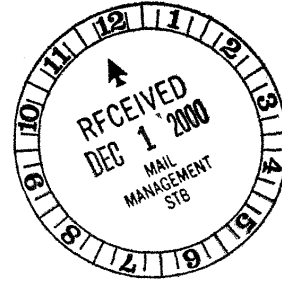
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Office of the Secretary

DEC 12 2000

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Public Record

November 24, 2000



Surface Transportation Board
Office of the Secretary
Case Control Unit
Att: STB FD#33407
1925 K St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

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ATTN: Victoria Rutson

I am writing regarding the Powder River Basin Expansion Project of the DM & E Railroad. As a resident of the City of Skyline in Minnesota, I was horrified to learn, only recently, of the DEIS conclusion that the preferred route for DM & E expansion will create major destruction of homes and property in our small, rural city. I am further disturbed by the fact that the Skyline City Council learned of this "preferred route" through our City **within the last three weeks** and we have only a small window of opportunity at attempting to impact this decision.

Please take into consideration the following concerns:

- Accidents and deaths that may occur as a result of multiple new railroad crossings in the township
- Emergency and law enforcement vehicles' inability to respond in a timely manner as a result of numerous trains blocking passage
- Our property value will be severely affected by railroad tracks and related noise and air pollution
- Eight of my neighbors' homes and property will be destroyed, as will the quality of life in and around the City of Skyline
- The rail line will be damaging significant wetlands, traversing some of the most beautiful land in Southern Minnesota

Your consideration of these concerns and others received by residents of the M-2 route will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Joslin Anderson
Joslin Anderson

**ENVIRONMENTAL
DOCUMENT**