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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Section of Environmental Analysis

DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project
Draft Environmental Impact Statement

COMMENT SHEET ENVIRONMENTAL

DOCUMENT

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Comments may be submitted today or mailed to:

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

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary

JAN 11 2001

Part of
Public Record

Please provide any comments on the DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project Draft EIS.

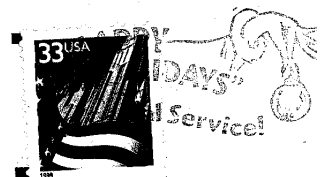
1. THESE COMMENTS PERTAIN TO THE PROPOSED EXPANSION IN AND AROUND THE MANKATO, MN AREA
2. THE EXISTING RAIL LINE IS NOT UTILIZED TO 100% CAPACITY
3. COAL CAN BE HAULED IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES USING EXISTING RAIL LINE
4. DME EXPANSION NOT NEEDED TO SATISFY PUBLIC NEEDS (SEE #3)
5. DME EXPANSION IS STRICTLY PROFIT DRIVEN TO THE BENEFIT OF ONLY THE DME
6. DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT IN AND AROUND THE MANKATO AREA WILL BE EXTENSIVE AND IRREVERSIBLE
7. INCONVENIENCE TO AREA RESIDENTS DUE TO DELAYS AT CROSSINGS WILL BE CONSIDERABLE
8. GRADE LEVEL CROSSINGS WILL BE DANGEROUS, DEATHS ARE INEVITABLE
9. NOISE LEVELS WILL BE UNACCEPTABLE TO AREA RESIDENTS
10. DECREASED PROPERTY VALUES WITHIN A REASONABLE DISTANCE MUST BE REIMBURSED BY THE DME TO AFFECTED PROPERTY OWNERS PER AN INDEPENDANT REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL
11. LASTLY, I AM NOT OPPOSED TO THE HAULING OF FREIGHT BY RAIL, IT IS AN EFFICIENT AND COST SAVING MODE OF TRANSPORTATION VERSUS THE USE OF TRUCKS ON THE PUBLIC ROADS. HOWEVER THE DISADVANTAGES IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE FAR OUTWEIGH ANY ADVANTAGE TO THE PUBLIC GOOD THAT I CAN SEE. THIS EXPANSION IS UNNECESSARY AND STRICTLY PROFIT DRIVEN. ~~BE OVER~~

Additional comments: THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE ALONG THIS PROPOSED EXPANSION ROUTE
HAVE MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT THIS PROJECT IS UNACCEPTABLE, UNNECESSARY AND SHOULD
BE DENIED - AS THE DECIDING AUTHORITY IN THIS MATTER IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO
REJECT PERMISSION FOR THE DME TO CONTINUE THIS WROGHEADED PROJECT.

THANK YOU

MSM

Mr. and Mrs. M. Topp
61010 206 Street
Eagle Lake, MN 56024



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Attn: Victoria Rutson
Environmental Project Manager
Environmental Filing

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