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206345

ORIGINAL



BY HAND

October 8, 2002

Hon. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0000

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

OCT 8 2002

Part of
Public Record

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 34178 Dakota, Minnesota
& Eastern Railroad Corporation And Cedar American
Rail Holdings, Inc.- Control - Iowa, Chicago &
Eastern Railroad Corporation

Dear Mr. Williams:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Owatonna, MN, in
connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

By decision served September 26, 2002, the Board accepted
the primary application filed by Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern
Railroad Corporation and Cedar American Rail Holdings and
established a procedural schedule. That decision requires any
person wishing to participate in this proceeding as a party of
record to file with the Board no later than October 15, 2002, an
original and 25 copies of a notice to participate accompanied by
a certificate of service indicating service on the Secretary of
the United States Department of Transportation, the Attorney
General of the United States, and applicants' representatives.

By this letter, the City of Owatonna advises the Board of
its intent to participate in this proceeding and that it will
submit its comments on or before November 14, 2002.

Please date stamp and return for our files one copy of this
letter.

Hon. Vernon A. Williams
October 8, 2002
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Sincerely yours,



John D. Hefner

Encl: Certificate of service

cc: parties required to be served
Mark Walbran, Esq.
Hon. Gregory Sparks

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Finance Docket No. 34178

DAKOTA, MINNESOTA & EASTERN RAILROAD CORPORATION AND CEDAR
AMERICAN RAIL HOLDINGS, INC. — CONTROL — IOWA, CHICAGO & EASTERN
RAILROAD CORPORATION

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, John D. Heffner, do hereby certify that I have this 8th
day of October 2002, served by First Class United States Mail a
copy of the foregoing Notice of Intent to Participate by the City
of Owatonna, MN, on the following named parties:

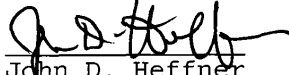
The Secretary of Transportation,
400 Seventh Street, SW,
Washington, DC 20590;

The Attorney General
Department of Justice
c/o Assistant Attorney General,
Antitrust Division,
Room 3645, Department of Justice,
Washington, DC 20530;

William C. Sippel, Esq.,
Fletcher & Sippel LLC,
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 3125,
180 North Stetson Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60601-6721;

David L. Knudson, Esq.,
Davenport, Evans, Hurwitz & Smith, L.L.P.,
206 West 14th Street,
Sioux Falls, SD 57104.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.D. Heffner", written over a horizontal line.

John D. Heffner
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Suite 950N.
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October 8, 2002