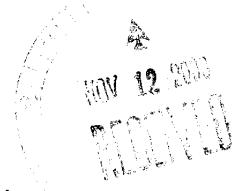


ORIGINAL

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Finance Docket No. 30186 (Sub-No. 3)

TONGUE RIVER RAILROAD CO. - CONSTRUCTION
Office of Proceeding
ENTERED AND OPERATION - WESTERN ALIGNMENT

NOV 12 2003

Part of
Public Record

COMMENTS

209387

City of Forsyth, an incorporated community served by The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) submits these comments with respect to the application dated April 1998, as supplemented May 2003.

City of Forsyth was active in the F.D. No. 30186 (Sub-No. 2) case, with a hearing conducted by ALJ Cross at Forsyth on August 19, 1992. Many local business concerns and members of the public presented testimony concerning the adverse impact of the proposed Tongue River Railroad construction and operation upon the community. These concerns are both economic and environmental. The Mayor of Forsyth testified the Tongue River Railroad project would have a devastating effect on the small community, with jobs lost in the industrial, public and private sectors. (FD 30186 (Sub-No. 2), Forsyth Hearing, Tr. 72-77).

The rerouting of BNSF coal business from BNSF's Huntley-Miles City line in favor of Tongue River Railroad routing would adversely affect Forsyth-based railroad employees, along with economic effects stemming from reduced railroad operations and service.

City of Forsyth wishes to renew these concerns, and its opposition to the Tongue River Railroad application.

Respectfully submitted,


GARY RYDER
P.O. Box 72
HYSHAM MT 59038

November 12, 2003

Attorney for City of Forsyth

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify I have served a copy of the foregoing upon
all parties of record by first class mail postage-prepaid.

November 12, 2003

