



OFFICE OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY ATTORNEY

AMY KLOBUCHAR COUNTY ATTORNEY

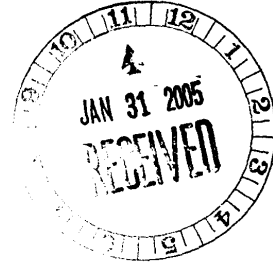
January 28, 2005

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Proceedings, AB-OFA
1925 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20423

213127
ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JAN 31 2005

Part of
Public Record



Re: *Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority - Request for Extension for Time to File Notice of Consummation of Exempt Abandonment of Rail Line located in McLeod, Carver, and Hennepin Counties, Minnesota*
S.T.B. Docket No. AB 864X

Dear Secretary Williams:

This letter requests from the Board an extension for the time to file notice of consummation of the above referenced exempt abandonment on behalf of the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA), a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota pursuant to 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2). The line for which the exempt abandonment has been permitted is the line of railroad known as the Dakota Rail Line between milepost 24.6 near Wayzata, MN and milepost 68.5 at or near Hutchinson, MN, in McLeod, Carver and Hennepin Counties, MN, a distance of approximately 43.9 miles pursuant to notice of exemption. HCRRA has discontinued rail operations, salvaged the track and removed the line from the interstate rail network, but requests an extension for filing of a notice of consummation of the exempt abandonment in order to allow additional time to complete the historical condition imposed upon the abandonment.

In a decision on March 10, 2004, the Board imposed five conditions on abandonment of the line. HCRRA has fulfilled the four conditions imposed for salvaging activities. The Board also imposed a condition that HCRRA retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of the ROW until completion of the section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). HCRRA has provided the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Officer, Mr. Dennis Gimmestad, documentation supplemental to its Historic Report, and understands that no further information is required for the review process. A copy of HCRRA's last correspondence with Mr. Gimmestad dated December 28, 2004 is attached. HCRRA has retained its interest in the line, and will take no steps to alter the historic integrity of the ROW until completion of the section 106 process.

An agreement for interim trail use/rail banking was reached with CCRRA on December 27, 2001 for that portion of the line between the east county line and west county line of

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Carver County. Under the agreement HCRRA will transfer its freight rail operations easement to CCRRA upon completion of consummation of the abandonment process.

By this letter HCRRA also serves all parties of record to the notice of exemption proceeding, and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission pursuant to 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2). Enclosed is HCRRA's certificate of service.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution. In addition, enclosed is a self-addressed stamped envelope and copy of this letter to be stamped with the filing date and returned to the undersigned. If you have any questions regarding the above-referenced matter, please feel free to call me.

Respectfully submitted,



MARILYN J. MALONEY
Assistant Hennepin County Attorney
Telephone: (612) 348-7754
FAX: (612) 348-8299

MJM:kd

Enclosure: Certificate of Service

cc: Dennis Gimmestad, Minnesota SHPO (w. enc.)
Ron Keagle (w. enc.)
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission pursuant to 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2) (w. enc.)
Marcia Wilda, Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (w. enc.)

Docket No. AB-864X
HCRRA-Dakota Rail Line

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Kathleen Danyo, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says:

That on the 28th day of January, 2005, she served/filed the annexed Letter dated 1-28-05 Re: *Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority – Request for Extension for Time to File Notice of Consummation of Exempt Abandonment of Rail Line located in McLeod, Carver, and Hennepin Counties, Minnesota* S.T.B. Docket No. AB 864X on the following by mailing to them a copy thereof, enclosed in an envelope, postage prepaid, and by depositing same in the Hennepin County mail system, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, directed to them at their last known address as follows:

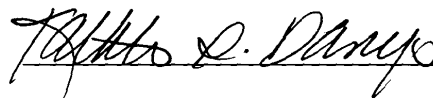
For Filing: The Honorable Vernon Williams
 Secretary, Surface Transportation Board
 1925 K Street NW
 Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

For Service:

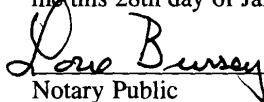
Mr. Dennis Gimmestad
Minnesota Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office
Director, Review and Compliance
Department
345 Kellogg Boulevard West
St. Paul, MN 55102-1906

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E. Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Ron Keagle
3829 Sunset Drive
Spring Park, MN 55384



Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 28th day of January 2005.



Notary Public

