

**OFFICE OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY ATTORNEY****AMY KLOBUCHAR** COUNTY ATTORNEY

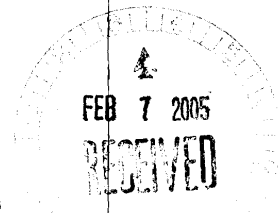
February 7, 2005

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

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

FEB - 7 2005

Part of
Public Record



Re: *Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority - 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:

HCRRA files this notice of consummation of abandonment for the above referenced exempt abandonment. 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. The STB also imposed a historical condition on abandonment of the line. Consummation of the abandonment will be effective upon the date that the STB removes the historical condition to abandonment of the line.

The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in a letter dated February 1, 2005, concluded that the rail line does not meet National Historic Register Criteria and concluded that the proposed abandonment will have no adverse effect on properties on the line. (A copy of the SHPO letter has been filed with the STB.) Accordingly, all conditions to abandonment will be met upon the STB's removal of the historical condition of the line.

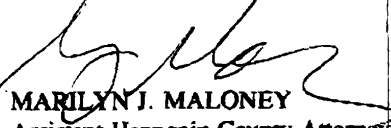
In letter dated January 28, 2005, HCRRA requested an extension of the date for filing notice of consummation of abandonment pending completion of the Sect 106 historical process. In light of the foregoing, HCRRA no longer needs extension of the date for filing of notice of consummation of abandonment of the line.

Honorable Vernon A. Williams

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Respectfully submitted,



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MJM:ljb

Enclosure: Certificate of Service

cc: Dennis Gimnestad, 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.)