

Felhaber Larson Fenlon & Vogt

A Professional Association – Attorneys at Law

MINNEAPOLIS
220 South Sixth Street | Suite 2200
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4504
612 339 6321 | Fax 612 338 0535

Karen R. Kees
651/312-6020
Fax: 651/222-8905
E-mail: kkees@felhaber.com
Reply to St. Paul Office



ST. PAUL
140 Cedar Street | Suite 2100
St. Paul, MN 55101-2136
651 222 6321 | Fax 651 222 8905

October 12, 2007

220443

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 "E" Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Via Federal Express (ZIP CODE 20024)

**RE: Docket No. AB1003X, Mohall Central Railroad, Inc.
Abandonment Exemption in Nelson, Ramsey and
Cavalier Counties, North Dakota
Our File No. 22327.002**

Dear Secretary Williams:

The enclosed letter from the North Dakota Department of Health was received by our office subsequent to the mailing of the verified Notice of Exemption to your office on October 5, 2007. We are providing a copy of this letter to complete your records.

Very truly yours,

Karen R. Kees
Paralegal

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

OCT 15 2007

Part of
Public Record

klg
enclosures

cc: Michael J. Barron
Byron D. Olsen
Gregg Haug
Jesse Chalich



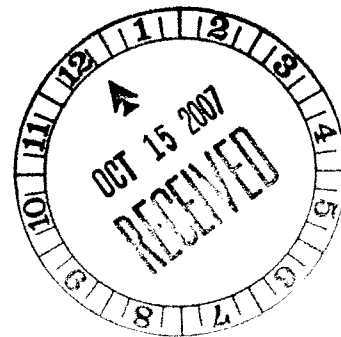
NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov



October 5, 2007

Ms. Karen R. Kees, Paralegal
Felhaber, Larson, Fenlon & Voght
444 Cedar Street, Suite 2100
St. Paul, MN 55101-2136



Re: Location Correction, Mohall Central Railroad, Inc.
STB Docket No. AB 1003X, Railroad Abandonment
Nelson, Ramsey and Cavalier Counties, North Dakota

Dear Ms. Kees:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted under date of September 19, 2007, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

This department believes that environmental impacts from the proposed railroad abandonment will be minor and can be controlled by proper salvage and disposal methods. With respect to the abandonment, our comments remain the same as in our February 21, 2007 response to you (copy attached).

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief
Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc
Attach.



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

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Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
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www.ndhealth.gov



February 21, 2007

Ms. Karen R. Kees, Paralegal
Felhaber, Larson, Fenlon & Voght
444 Cedar Street, Suite 2100
St. Paul, MN 55101-2136

Re: STB Docket No. AB 1003X, Railroad Abandonment
Nelson, Ramsey and Cavalier Counties, North Dakota

Dear Ms. Kees:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted to Governor John Hoeven under date of January 31, 2007, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

This department believes that environmental impacts from the proposed railroad abandonment will be minor and can be controlled by proper salvage and disposal methods. With respect to the abandonment, we have the following comments:

1. Follow Best Management Practices during salvage activities to prevent dirt, construction debris, and waste material from entering a storm drainage system or water body. Guidelines for minimizing degradation to waterways are attached.
2. Any releases of petroleum products, hazardous materials, or chemicals that may impact human health or the environment, which are known to have occurred in the past or are discovered in the project area during abandonment and salvage operations, must be reported to the North Dakota Department of Health. The Department's Environmental Emergency Response Contacts List is attached.
3. All solid waste materials must be managed and transported in accordance with the state's solid and hazardous waste rules. Appropriate efforts to reduce, reuse and/or recycle waste materials are strongly encouraged. As appropriate, segregation of inert waste from non-inert waste can generally reduce the cost of waste management. Further information on waste management and recycling is available from the Department's Division of Waste Management at (701) 328-5166.
4. No burning of waste material generated during the salvage operations may be conducted unless approved in advance by the Department's Division of Air Quality (701-328-5188).

Environmental Health
Section Chief's Office
701.328.5150

Division of
Air Quality
701.328.5188

Division of
Municipal Facilities
701.328.5211

Division of
Waste Management
701.328.5166

Division of
Water Quality
701.328.5210

Printed on recycled paper.

Ms. Karen R. Kees

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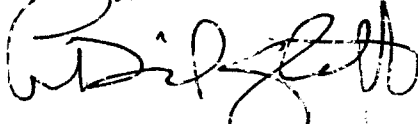
February 21, 2007

The department owns no land in or adjacent to the proposed improvements, nor does it have any projects scheduled in the area. In addition, we believe the proposed activities are consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the Control of Air Pollution for the State of North Dakota.

These comments are based on the information provided about the project in the above-referenced submittal. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may require a water quality certification from this department for the project if the project is subject to their Section 404 permitting process. Any additional information which may be required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the process will be considered by this department in our determination regarding the issuance of such a certification.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. David Glatt", written over a horizontal line.

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief
Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc
Attach.



Construction and Environmental Disturbance Requirements

These represent the minimum requirements of the North Dakota Department of Health. They ensure that minimal environmental degradation occurs as a result of construction or related work which has the potential to affect the waters of the State of North Dakota. All projects will be designed and implemented to restrict the losses or disturbances of soil, vegetative cover, and pollutants (chemical or biological) from a site.

Soils

Prevent the erosion of exposed soil surfaces and trapping sediments being transported. Examples include, but are not restricted to, sediment dams or berms, diversion dikes, hay bales as erosion checks, riprap, mesh or burlap blankets to hold soil during construction, and immediately establishing vegetative cover on disturbed areas after construction is completed. Fragile and sensitive areas such as wetlands, riparian zones, delicate flora, or land resources will be protected against compaction, vegetation loss, and unnecessary damage.

Surface Waters

All construction which directly or indirectly impacts aquatic systems will be managed to minimize impacts. All attempts will be made to prevent the contamination of water at construction sites from fuel spillage, lubricants, and chemicals, by following safe storage and handling procedures. Stream bank and stream bed disturbances will be controlled to minimize and/or prevent silt movement, nutrient upsurges, plant dislocation, and any physical, chemical, or biological disruption. The use of pesticides or herbicides in or near these systems is forbidden without approval from this Department.

Fill Material

Any fill material placed below the high water mark must be free of top soils, decomposable materials, and persistent synthetic organic compounds (in toxic concentrations). This includes, but is not limited to, asphalt, tires, treated lumber, and construction debris. The Department may require testing of fill materials. All temporary fills must be removed. Debris and solid wastes will be removed from the site and the impacted areas restored as nearly as possible to the original condition.

North Dakota Department of Health
Environmental Health Section

Environmental Emergency Response Contacts List

NORMAL WORKING HOURS 8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday
Call the office phone numbers

AFTER HOURS 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
STATE RADIO 1-701-328-9921 or 1-800-472-2121 (in-state calls)

Page

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CASE MANAGER

Page

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION CASE MANAGER Office phone no.: 328-5150
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Alternate Contact

Primary Contacts

WATER POLLUTION oil spills
Office phone no.: 328-5210

AIR POLLUTION gases, vapors
Office phone no.: 328-5188

RADIATION radioactive materials
Office phone no.: 328-5188

TOXIC & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS pesticides, insecticides, chemicals
Office phone no.: 328-5166

DRINKING WATER public water systems
Office phone no.: 328-5211

CHEMISTRY LABORATORY sample analysis
Office phone no.: 328-6140

1st Alternative Contact Dana Mount Office phone no.: 328-5150 Home phone no.: 223-6735
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2nd Alternative Contact L. David Glat Office phone no.: 328-5150 Home phone no.: 255-6391

Approved by: *Dana Mount* Date: June 4, 2002

Emergency Response Coordinator

Approved by: *David Glat* Date: June 4, 2002

Chief, Environmental Health Section

ND Department of Health
Environmental Health Section
918 East Divide Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947

June 4, 2002