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<b>Facsimile Transmission Sheet</b>	<b>SIDNEY STRICKLAND AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC</b> 3050 K ST. N.W., SUITE 101 WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5108 TELEPHONE: 202-295-4024 FAX: 202-672-5399
<b>To:</b> Christa Dean <b>Fax number:</b> (202) <del>565-4666</del> 565-9000	
<b>Date:</b> 3/7/2006	
<b>From:</b> Liz Waite Phone number: (202) 295-4672	
<b>Comments:</b> Attached is the recommended form we discussed yesterday in regards to the Georgetown Abandonment (433X). The form is a Data Request Form that the Minnesota DNR recommended BNSF complete and submit in its Environmental Report comments. We faxed the form today. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you.  Liz Waite liz.waite@stricklandpllc.com	

For Agency Use Only:			
Received _____	Due _____	RUSH _____	
Related ES# _____			
Search Radius _____	mi. _____	ER/Alt _____	EOs _____
Map'd _____	C/ NoC Let _____	Inv _____	Log out _____

**MINNESOTA NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA REQUEST FORM**

DATE OF REQUEST 3/6/06

**WHO IS REQUESTING THE INFORMATION?**

Name and Title Sidney L. Strickland, Jr., Attorney for BNSF Railway  
 Agency/Company Sidney Strickland and Associates, PLLC Company  
 Address 3050 K Street N.W., Suite 107 Washington, D.C. 20007-5108  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)  
 Phone (202) 295-4024 FAX (202) 672-5399 e-mail sidney.strickland@stricklandpllc.com

THIS INFORMATION IS BEING REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF (if applicable): BNSF Railway Company

**WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED?**

- Printouts of known occurrences of federally and state listed plants and animals; native plant communities; and aggregation sites such as bat hibernacula, colonial waterbird nesting sites, and prairie chicken booming grounds.
- Information listed above, plus geological features and state rare species with no legal status.
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Frequent applicants: Check here if you DO NOT need a copy of the field-by-field explanation of the printouts: \_\_\_\_\_

WHERE IS THE AREA OF INTEREST? 1) ENCLOSE A MAP showing detailed boundaries of the project area (topographic maps or aerial photos are preferred). 2) If a GIS shapefile of the project area is available, please provide a copy projected in UTM Zone 15, NAD83).

**PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED PROJECT INFORMATION**

For Agency Use Only:  
 REGION \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Township# T N Range# \_\_\_\_\_ Section(s) (and half-section, quarter-section, etc., if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
See attached sheet.

Project Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project Proposer \_\_\_\_\_

Detailed Project Description (attach additional sheets if necessary)  
Please see the attached initial letters sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Past Land-Use of Project Site Used for railroad purposes.

HOW WILL THE INFORMATION BE USED? Describe the planned use of the information, including in what form and detail you wish to publish this information, if any. The information will be used in an abandonment proceeding.

**TURN-AROUND TIME**

Requests generally take 3 weeks from date of receipt to process, and are processed in the order received. Rush requests are processed in 2 weeks or less.

**FEEES**

For-profit organizations, including consultants working for governmental agencies, are charged a fee for this service. In addition, a fee may be charged for large requests from any source. A surcharge (currently \$50) is applied for rush orders; if this is a rush order, please check the blank below. Fees subject to change. A fee schedule is available upon request. Please do not include payment with your request; an invoice will be sent to you.

Rush

"The information supplied above is complete and accurate. I understand that material supplied to me from the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System is copyrighted and that I am not permitted to reproduce or publish any of this copyrighted material without prior written permission from the Minnesota DNR. Further, if permission to publish is given, I understand that I must credit the Minnesota Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as the source of the material."

Signature *Sig Z. Thielke*

Mail or email completed forms to:

For further information call:

Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator (for project reviews) (651) 259-5107 or 259-5109  
Sarah.hoffmann@dnr.state.mn.us e.g. EAWs  
or  
Assistant Database Manager (for general requests) (651) 259-5123  
Sharron.nelson@dnr.state.mn.us  
at  
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Or FAX completed forms to: (651) 296-1811

Additional information about the Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program is available at [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological\\_services/nhnrp/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/index.html)

**For Agency Use Only:**

EO's requiring comment \_\_\_\_\_

Sources contacted	Topic	Response
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Response Summary \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responder \_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions for the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System Data Request Form

Please read the following!

- < Legible maps clearly showing the location and boundaries of the project are required for processing all project reviews.
- < We cannot begin processing information requests until we receive all parts of the request, including a map and a completed, signed information request form.
- < Please provide as detailed a **project description** as possible, attaching separate pages to the form if necessary (i.e. identify the type of development to be constructed (housing, commercial, utility, etc.), the size and # of units, if applicable, any associated infrastructure and utility connections, and construction methods).
- < **Responses** are returned to the party which appears in the "Who is requesting the information?" section. This must also be the person who signs the form on the second page, acknowledging the State of Minnesota's copyright on all printouts generated in response to project reviews.
- < On the form, note the first sentence under the subheading "FEES". As a courtesy, we provide database searches to other governmental agencies and non-profit entities free of charge. For-profit entities, including consultants working for governmental agencies, are charged a fee. Please do not include payment with your request; an invoice will be sent to you.
- < There is generally a 3-week **turn-around time** on environmental reviews. Rush jobs (2 week turn-around) are charged an additional \$50 (only applies to for-profit entities).
- < For **large projects** (>30 sections) we request that the township/range/section information be submitted on disk or via e-mail. Please submit the file in Word or ASCII, and in the following format: Township#,Range#,Section#s separated by commas. There should be no ending punctuation, no spaces, no letters, except an "E" after appropriate ranges, and each Township / Range combination should be typed on a separate line. For example, T62N R1W Sections 1-3, 11, 12 and T62N R3E Sections 4-9, 17, 18 should be listed as:  
  
62,1,1-3,11,12  
62,3E,4-9,17,18
- If a **GIS shapefile** of the project area is available, please provide a copy projected in UTM Zone 15, NAD83 .
- < **Gray wolf** locations are not tracked in the Natural Heritage databases. Please contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for information on this species.
- < An **electronic copy** of the form is available at the DNR's web site – [http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological\\_services/nhnrp/nhis\\_data\\_request.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/nhis_data_request.pdf)
- < You may reproduce this form for your own use or to distribute.

# GEORGETOWN - PERLEY, MINNESOTA

**NORTH DAKOTA**

**MINNESOTA**

**PERLEY MILEPOST 21.00**

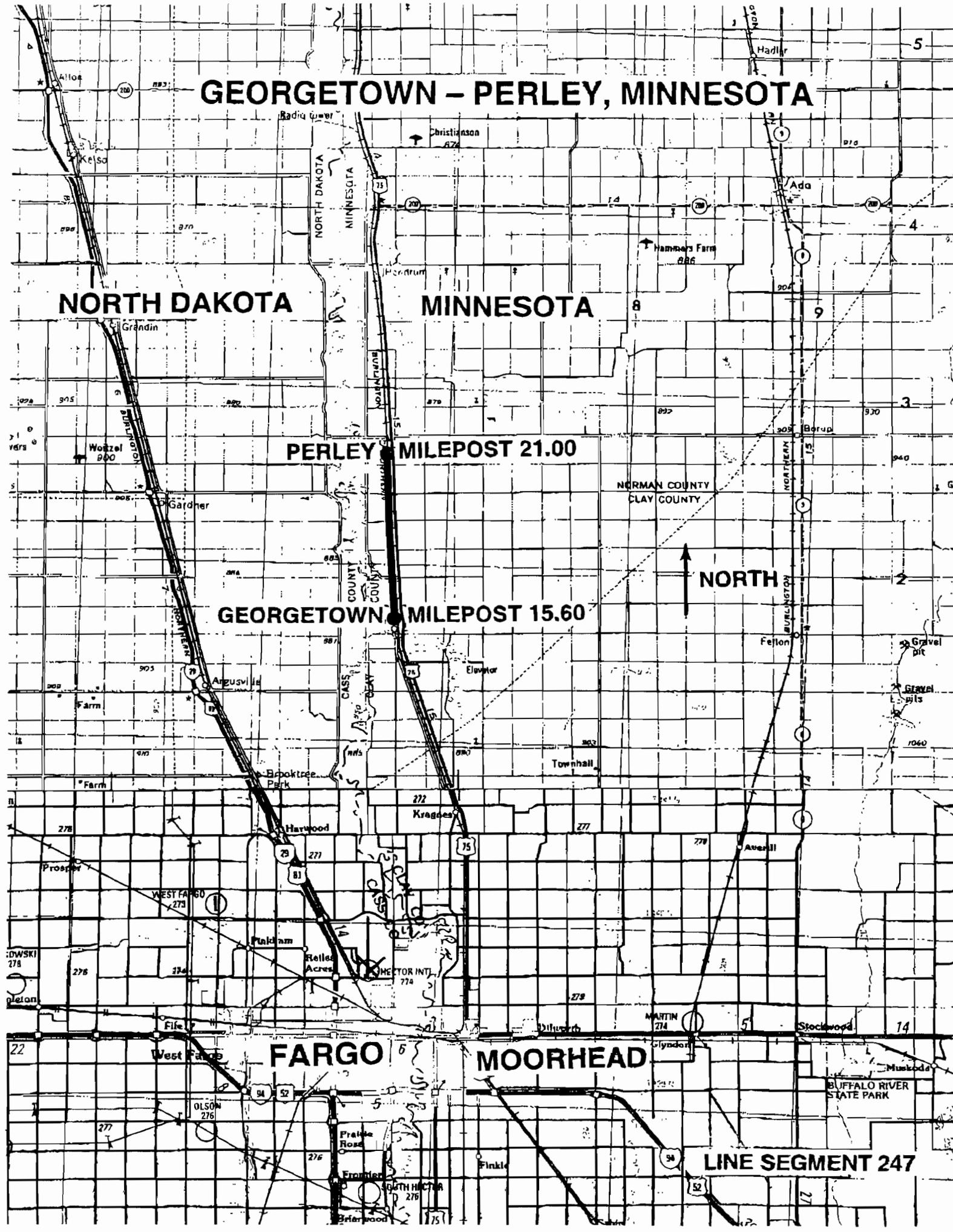
**GEORGETOWN MILEPOST 15.60**

**NORTH**

**FARGO**

**MOORHEAD**

**LINE SEGMENT 247**



### Georgetown to Perley, MN

Location	Milepost	Quarter	Section	Township	Range	County
Georgetown	15.60	NW 1/4	29	142N	48W	Clay
		SW 1/4	20	"	"	"
		NW 1/4	20	"	"	"
		NE 1/4	19	"	"	"
		SE 1/4	18	"	"	"
		NE 1/4	18	"	"	"
		SW 1/4	17	"	"	"
		SE 1/4	7	"	"	"
		NE 1/4	7	"	"	"
		SE 1/4	6	"	"	"
		NE 1/4	6	"	"	"
		SE 1/4	31	143N	48W	Norman
		NE 1/4	31	"	"	"
Perley	21.00	SE 1/4	30	"	"	"

**SIDNEY STRICKLAND AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC**

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WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5108  
TELEPHONE: 202-295-4024  
FAX: 202-672-5399

SIDNEY L. STRICKLAND, JR.  
SIDNEY.STRICKLAND@STRICKLANDPLLC.COM

October 24, 2005

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Waters  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

***Re: STB Docket No. AB (Sub. No. 433X) BNSF Railway Company—  
Abandonment Exemption – in Clay and Norman Counties, MN***

Dear Sir or Madam:

BNSF Railway Company (“BNSF”) plans on filing with the Surface Transportation Board (“STB”) a Notice of Exemption seeking authority in the above docket to abandon 5.40 miles of railroad line between Milepost 15.60, near Georgetown in Clay County, and Milepost 21.00, near Perley in Norman County, Minnesota.

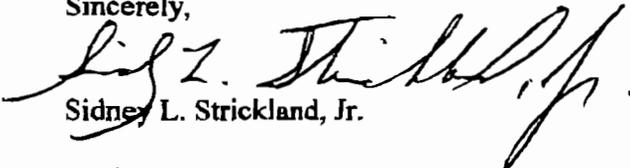
The proposed abandonment may require removal of bridges and structures and the removal of track materials such as rails and ties but the roadbed will be left intact. No placement of dredge or fill material in any inland waterways is anticipated to result from abandonment and/or salvage.

As part of the environmental report, BNSF needs to know whether or not this action will be consistent with Federal, State or local water quality standards. Also, please state whether or not Section 402 and/or National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) are required as a result of the proposed abandonment. BNSF also needs to know if the proposed abandonment will affect any 100-year floodplains. If so, please furnish 8½ by 11 black and white maps in the area of each designated floodplain if they are available.

For your reference, I have enclosed a map of the above referenced railroad line. Please provide this information to me by November 21, 2005. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 295-4024.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

Enclosure  
SLS/eww

**SIDNEY STRICKLAND AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC**

**3050 K ST. N.W., SUITE 101  
WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5108  
TELEPHONE: 202-295-4024  
FAX: 202-672-5399**

SIDNEY L. STRICKLAND, JR.  
SIDNEY.STRICKLAND@STRICKLANDPLLC.COM

October 24, 2005

Robyn Thorson, Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Region 3—Great Lakes-Big Rivers  
1 Federal Drive  
BHW Federal Building  
Fort Snelling, MN 55111

***Re: STB Docket No. AB (Sub. No. 433X) BNSF Railway Company—  
Abandonment Exemption – in Clay and Norman Counties, MN***

Dear Ms. Thorson:

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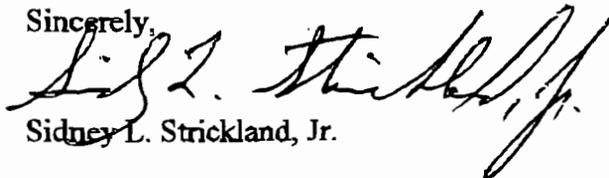
The proposed abandonment may require removal of bridges and structures and the removal of track materials such as rails and ties but the roadbed will be left intact.

As part of the environmental report, BNSF needs to know whether or not there are any endangered or threatened species, wildlife sanctuaries or refuges or areas designated as critical habitat adjacent or near the line and if so, what effects the proposed action may have.

For your reference, I have enclosed a map of the above referenced railroad line. Please provide this information to me by November 21, 2005. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 295-4024.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.

Enclosure  
SLS/ew