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THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

August 30, 2005

By e-mail

Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit, Suite 713
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 429X), *BNSF Railway Company - Abandonment Exemption - in Ramsey County, MN*

Docket No. AB-882 (Sub-No. 1X), *Minnesota Commercial Railway Company - Discontinuance of Service Exemption - in Ramsey County, MN*

Dear Mr. Williams:

These are the City of Maplewood's comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) issued by the Board on August 15, 2005.

1. The bridge at Interstate Highway 694 will not be removed as part of planned salvage operations, as stated at page 2 of the EA. Applicants led the Board to believe otherwise by mistakenly stating on page 4 of the Draft Environmental and Historic Report that the I-694 bridge would be removed.
2. The City of Maplewood filed a request for issuance of a Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) on August 2, 2005. BNSF Railway, Inc. notified the Board on August 9, 2005 that it agrees to negotiate with the City of Maplewood for railbanking and interim trail use.

Very truly yours,



Thomas F. McFarland
Attorney for City of
Maplewood, Minnesota

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Vernon A. Williams, Secretary

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cc: David Ramberg, Esq.)
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