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Minnesota Department of Transportation

Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations
MS 470
395 John Ireland Blvd
St Paul, MN 55155-1899

September 9, 2008

By e-mail

Ann K. Quinlan, Esq
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW, Suite 1149
Washington, D C 20024

Re STB Docket No AB 497 (Sub-No 4X) *Minnesota Northern Railroad, Inc*
--Abandonment Exemption--in Norman County, MN

Dear Ms Quinlan

As the Minnesota Department of Transportation's State Rail Bank Program Manager, I called a meeting of government officials and shippers at the Norman County Courthouse on September 3, 2008 to discuss the proposed abandonment of the corridor from Perley to just short of Shelly Minnesota

The Minnesota Department of Transportation did not see a "future transportation use" for the corridor, there were no affected shippers present, thus opening the floor to general discussion

Discussion gravitated to a possible tri-county trail use of the corridor and participants were advised to file a Public Use Notice (PUN) with the Board as soon as possible and not more than 30 days after filing of the Exemption

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert R. Rickert'.

Robert R. Rickert
State Rail Bank Program Manager

Cc Thomas McFarland - Attorney for Mn Northern RR, Inc *by e-mail*
George LaPray- General Manager, Mn Northern RR, Inc *by e-mail*