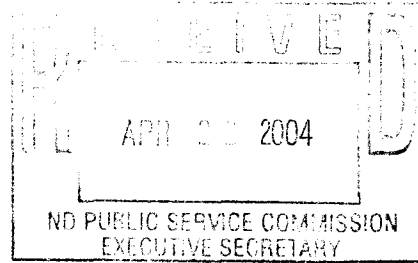


VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

April 19, 2004

North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Ave., Department 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



***Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 416X);
The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company
Abandonment between Souris, North Dakota and Westhope, North
Dakota***

Attorneys at Law

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Senior Counsel
Direct 312.360.6724
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Dear Sir or Madam:

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company ("BNSF") provides your agency the attached notice of the BNSF's intent to abandon the above-referenced right-of-way. Based on information in our possession, the line does contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documents in BNSF's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it

Sincerely,

Michael A. Smith

Chicago

Springfield

Enclosure