



# Public Service Commission

## State of North Dakota

### COMMISSIONERS

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April 26, 2004

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«Name»  
«Company»  
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Re: Case No. RR-04-175  
Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway Company  
Souris to Westhope, ND – 15.50 Miles  
Abandonment

Dear «Salutation»:

Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad has notified the Public Service Commission that it will soon seek federal approval to abandon 15.50 miles of track between Souris and Westhope in Bottineau County in north central North Dakota.

This abandonment will be processed under an exemption provision before the federal Surface Transportation Board. The procedure permits an expedited abandonment time frame if a line has not been used in at least two years.

If this application is approved, the BNSF is expected to dismantle the line within the next two years. BNSF owns the underlying land. It is expected that at some time after the line is dismantled, BNSF's property management contractor will offer to sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of the land, under the requirements of N.D.C.C. § 49-09-04.2, to present owners or lessees of fixed assets located on the property, or to adjacent landowners, or for public recreational use.

If you have any questions about the abandonment application or how the Surface Transportation Board processes these cases, please contact William W. Binek at 701-328-4088. Mr. Binek is the Commission's chief counsel and would be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Tony Clark  
Commissioner

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Pages: 3

Letter to interested parties re proposed  
abandonment  
by Public Service Commission

04/26/2004

CC: Comm Legal . . .

Name	Company	Address1	City/State/Zip	Salutation
The Honorable Kent Conrad	United States Senate	530 Hart Office Building	Washington, DC 20510	Senator Conrad
The Honorable Byron Dorgan	United States Senate	713 Hart Office Building	Washington, DC 20510	Senator Dorgan
The Honorable Earl Pomeroy	United States House of Representatives	1533 Longworth	Washington, DC 20510	Representative Pomeroy
Mr. Doug Prchal	ND Parks & Recreation Department	1835 East Bismarck Expressway	Bismarck, ND 58504-6708	Mr. Prchal
Mr. Brian Kramer	ND Farm Bureau	PO Box 2793	Bismarck, ND 58503	Mr. Kramer
Mr. Vance Taylor	ND Mill and Elevator National Sunflower Association	PO Box 13078	Grand Forks, ND 58208-3078	Mr. Taylor
Mr. Larry Kleingartner	North Dakota Department of Agriculture	4023 North State Street	Bismarck, ND 58501	Mr. Kleingartner
The Honorable Roger Johnson, Commissioner	Planning Division Department of Transportation	State Capitol - 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor	Bismarck, ND 58505-0200	Commissioner Johnson
Mr. Bob Johnston	Chief of Staff, Governor's Office	DOT Building	Bismarck, ND 58505-0700	Mr. Johnston
Mr. Bill Goetz	ND Department of Commerce	State Capitol - 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	Bismarck, ND 58505-0001	Mr. Goetz
Mr. Lee Peterson, Commissioner	State Historical Society	PO Box 2057	Bismarck, ND 58502	Mr. Peterson
Mr. Merl Paaverud	ND Land Department	ND Heritage Center	Bismarck, ND 58505-0830	Mr. Paaverud
Mr. Rick Larson	North Dakota Grain Dealers Association	PO Box 5523	Bismarck, ND 58502-5523	Mr. Larson
Mr. Steve Strege	Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute	606 Black Building	Fargo, ND 58102	Mr. Strege
Mr. Gene Griffin	North Dakota Wheat Commission	PO Box 5074	Fargo, ND 58102-5074	Mr. Griffin
Mr. Neal Fisher	ND Senate Transportation Committee	4023 North State Street	Bismarck, ND 58501	Mr. Fisher
The Honorable Thomas L. Trenbeath, Chairman	ND House Transportation Committee	PO Box 361	Cavalier, ND 58220	Senator Trenbeath
The Honorable Robin Weisz, Chairman		50 Highway 3S	Hurdsfield, ND 58451	Representative Weisz
Mr. John Risch, III		750 Augsburg	Bismarck, ND 58501	Mr. Risch
Mr. Dave MacIver	Greater North Dakota	2000 Schafer Street	Bismarck, ND 58501	Mr. MacIver

Mr. Robert Carlson	Association North Dakota Farmers Union	PO Box 2136	Jamestown, ND 58402-2136	Mr. Carlson
Mr. Doug Erhart	Brotherhood of Maintenance Way Employees	1203 27 <sup>th</sup> Street NW	Mandan, ND 58554	Mr. Erhart
Mr. John Mittleider	North Dakota Barley Council	505 40 <sup>th</sup> St SW Unit E	Fargo, ND 58103-1184	Mr. Mittleider
Mayor Craig George		PO Box 25	Landa, ND 58749-0025	Mayor George
Mayor Greg Muehler		PO Box 134	Souris, ND 58783-0134	Mayor Muehler
Mayor Margo Helgerson		PO Box 412	Westhope, ND 58793-0412	Mayor Helgerson
Senator David P. O'Connell		2531 County Road 30	Lansford, ND 58750	Senator O'Connell
Representative Glen Froseth		PO Box 894	Kenmare, ND 58746	Representative Froseth
Representative Bob Hunskor		PO Box 1	Newburg, ND 58762	Representative Hunskor
Mr. Mike Getzloff	Bottineau Courant	PO Box 29	Bottineau, ND 58318	Mr. Getzloff
Ms. Ginny Heth	Westhope Standard	PO Box 267	Westhope, ND 58793	Ms. Heth
Mr. Clifford Issendorf, Chairman	Water Resource District	641 88 <sup>th</sup> Street NW	Newburg, ND 58762	Mr. Issendorf
Mr. David Bernstein	County Commissioner	314 W 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	Bottineau, ND 58318	Mr. Bernstein
Mr. David C. Larson	County Commissioner	314 W 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	Bottineau, ND 58318	Mr. Larson
Mr. Fred Tyler	County Commissioner	314 W 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	Bottineau, ND 58318	Mr. Tyler
Mr. Verdean Kveum	County Commissioner	314 W 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	Bottineau, ND 58318	Mr. Kveum
Mr. David C. Geiszler	County Commissioner	314 W 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	Bottineau, ND 58318	Mr. Geiszler
Mr. Rob Olson, Manager	Bottineau Farmers Elevator	PO Box 423	Bottineau, ND 58793	Mr. Olson
Mr. Kevin McDonald, St. Manager	Bottineau Farmers Elevator Co.	PO Box 136	Bottineau, ND 58783	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Lyle Lesmann, Manager	Landa Co-op Elevator Co.	151 Front Street	Landa, ND 58783	Mr. Lesmann