



**STATE
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SOCIETY
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North Dakota
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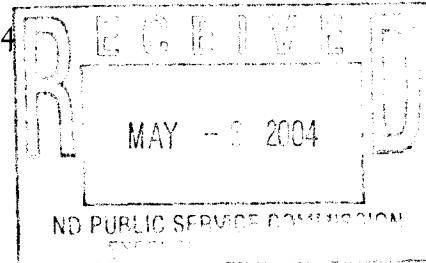
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Director
Department of Transportation

John E. Von Rueden
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Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.
Director

Accredited by the
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of Museums

May 5, 2004



Tony Clark, Commissioner
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

ND SHPO REF.: 04-0288, Proposed BN&SF Railway Co. Abandonment, Souris to Westhope, Bottineau County, ND. Case No. RR-04-175.

Dear Tony:

We have reviewed Project: 04-0288, proposed abandonment of the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company line between the Cities of Souris and Westhope, North Dakota.

The ND SHPO has, in a letter dated 2/19/04, recommended to the STB and Burlington Northern & Santa Fe (BN&SF) Railway Company that a Class I Cultural Resources Inventory (i.e., files search) of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) be prepared and submitted to our office for consultation. We also recommended that any previously unrecorded and unevaluated abandoned or to-be-abandoned stations over 50 years of age along the railway line (i.e., in the Cities of Westhope, Landa, Roth, and Souris, and any other stations) be recorded and preliminarily evaluated. We are including a copy of the letter for your records, and look forward to not only reviewing the information when it is submitted to our office by BN&SF or its legal representative, but continuing consultation with the STB, BN&SF, and PSC on this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. Please include the ND SHPO Reference number listed above in any further correspondence for this specific project. If you have any questions please contact Duane Klinner at (701) 328-3576.

Sincerely,

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer
(North Dakota)

6 RR-04-175

Pages: 2

Response to proposed abandonment

by Historical Society

05/06/2004

CC: Comm Legal...



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OF NORTH DAKOTA**

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John Hoeven
Governor of North Dakota

February 19, 2004

**North Dakota
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John E. Von Rueden
Bismarck

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.
Director

Brian Nettles
Freeborn & Peters LLP
311 South Wacker Drive, Suite 3000
Chicago, IL 60606-6677

NDSHPO REF.: 04-0288, Proposed BN&SF Railway Co. Abandonment, Souris to Westhope, Bottineau County, ND.

Dear Mr. Nettles:

We have reviewed Project: 04-0288, proposed abandonment of the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company line between the Cities of Souris and Westhope, North Dakota.

We recommend that a Class I Cultural Resources Inventory (i.e., files search) of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) be prepared and submitted to our office for consultation. The results of the files search should include a short report detailing all cultural resources (including potential or actual historic properties) in the legal sections of the APE and 7.5' topographic maps with the cultural resource locations and previously inventoried areas plotted and marked on it.

We also recommend that any previously unrecorded and unevaluated abandoned or to-be-abandoned stations over 50 years of age along the railway line (i.e., in the Cities of Westhope, Landa, Roth, and Souris, and any other stations) be recorded and preliminarily evaluated by a state-permitted cultural resource firm.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. Please include the ND SHPO Reference number listed above in any further correspondence for this specific project. If you have any questions please contact Duane Klinner at (701) 328-3576.

Sincerely,

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer
(North Dakota)

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