

CITY OF ONIDA

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

395 E. Street, SW

Washington, DC 20423-0000

*RE: Canadian Pacific Railway Company, et. al. - Control - Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern
Railroad Corp., et. al. Finance docket No. 35081 Sub 2*

Dear STB Members:

I am writing to express my concern over the CP's operation and possible sale or lease of the DM & E line. The CP's announced plans to sell are of great concern to the people of South Dakota as well. If implemented, they could eliminate the benefits CP had promised South Dakota farmers and shippers, leaving them with marginalized service and fewer competitive options than those that existed when DM & E first began operations in 1986.

When the CP sought to purchase the DM & E it committed to make substantial investments in the line. The people of South Dakota relied on those commitments and supported the CP's acquisition based on the CP's promises. Had the people known that in just a few short years the CP would flip the track and eliminated access to Minneapolis/St. Paul, Mankato, Waseca, Winona and Chicago, to name a few, it is hard to imagine the CP would have received the support it did for the acquisition.

Several shippers have made considerable investments on the existing tracks to expand the shuttle loading facilities based on rail availability to markets. Those investments are now at risk. Other shippers have suspended additional investment in expansion plans as a result of the CP's recent announcement.

The Surface Transportation Board's approval of the South Dakota petition would allow the CP to publicly justify its belated effort to avoid these track upgrades and service to the STB, South Dakota farmers, shippers and communities who relied on their representation.

Please accept this letter as an expression of my complete support for the SD DOT's Petition to Enforce Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Investment Representations in the above-captioned matter.

Thank You,



Mayor Gary Wickersham
City of Onida, South Dakota
cc: All Parties Served 9-24-2013