



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
SIBLEY SQUARE AT MEARS PARK
190 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 401
ST. PAUL MINNESOTA 55101-1638

ET-18023

COPY

Operations
Regulatory (2009-01715-CCB)

OCT 07 2009

Mr. Gabriel Meyer
Union Pacific Railroad Company
1400 Douglas Street, Mail Stop 1580
Omaha, Nebraska 68179



Dear Mr. Meyer:

This letter is in reference to the abandonment of the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) bridge at Milepost 36.17, on the east side of Chaska over the Minnesota River, a navigable water of the United States. The project site is in SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 17, Township 115 N., Range 23W., between Carver and Scott Counties, Minnesota.

We understand that negotiations between UP and Carver and Scott Counties for the acquisition of the abandoned rail corridor have ended without reaching an agreement between the interested parties. It is our understanding also that UP has not consummated the abandonment granted by the Surface Transportation Board.

Please inform us of your future plans and time frames regarding the abandonment and removal of this bridge as it poses a public safety concern. Your written response is requested within 15 days from the date of this letter.

Please be aware that we do not require authorization to remove the existing debris and logjams in the immediate area of the bridge, assuming no fill material or structures are placed in the Minnesota River to accomplish the work. UP may proceed with removing the debris without further approval from the Corps. Please contact the Corps if the removal method chosen by UP would require fill material or a structure in the River.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Christina Carballal in our St. Paul Office at (651) 290-5372. In any correspondence or inquiries, please refer to the file number shown above.

Sincerely,

Tamara E. Cameron
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Operations
Regulatory (2009-01775-CCB)

Copy furnished:

Mr. Roger Wiebusch, Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
Honorable Anne Quinlan, Surface Transportation Board
Mr. Randy Maluchnick, Carver County Commissioner
Mr. Jim Ische, Carver County Regional Railroad Authority
Mr. James T. Elmquist, City Of Carver
Mr. Dennis Gimmestad, Minnesota Historical Society
Ms. Cindy Olness, City Of Carver
Minnesota DNR, South Minnesota Regional Office
Mr. Larry Harris, Melchert Hubert Sjodin
Mr. W. Karl Hansen, Leonard Street and Deinard
Mr. Thomas F. McFarland, Thomas F. McFarland, P.C.
Mr. Charlie Blair, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
US Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Dale Homuth, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Mark Themig, Scott County Parks and Trails
Mr. Daniel R. Elliott III, United Transportation Union
Mr. Lyndon Robjent, County Engineer, Carver County