

FOR RELEASE
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**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD TO HOLD PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS
ON HISTORIC STRUCTURES IN SOUTH DAKOTA & MINNESOTA AFFECTED BY
DAKOTA, MINNESOTA & EASTERN RAILROAD'S "POWDER RIVER BASIN EXPANSION
PROJECT"**

The Surface Transportation Board announced today that its Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will hold a series of public information sessions, in South Dakota and Minnesota, to receive public comments on the proposed treatment of historic structures in South Dakota and Minnesota that will be affected by railroad line rehabilitation work related to the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad's (DM&E) Powder River Basin Expansion Project. The comments will be incorporated into a "Treatment Plan" required as part of the environmental mitigation imposed in the Board's decision authorizing the project.

The sessions will be held in an open-house format with DM&E displays describing what the railroad proposes to do with the historic bridges and culverts that likely will need to be replaced or refitted. DM&E has developed these proposals in concert with the State Historic Preservation Officers of South Dakota and Minnesota.

STB staff representatives will be available to answer questions and to receive public comments on the proposed treatment of the historic structures. DM&E technical experts also will be available.

Information Sessions Schedule

Monday, August 13

5:00pm - 8:00pm MDT

Grand Hall, Wall Community Center, 501 Main Street, Wall, South Dakota

Tuesday, August 14

6:00pm - 9:00pm CDT

Pierre Chamber of Commerce, 800 W. Dakota Street, Pierre, South Dakota

Wednesday, August 15

5:00pm - 8:00pm CDT

Prairie Ballroom, Huron Event Center, 100 4th Street, Huron, South Dakota

Thursday, August 16

6:00pm - 9:00pm CDT

Shetek Bend, 1045 Craig Avenue, Tracy, Minnesota

Monday, August 20

5:00pm - 8:00pm CDT

Winona County Historical Society, 160 Johnson Street, Winona, Minnesota

For further information concerning the historic review of the DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project, please contact **STB Project Manager Catherine Glidden**, at **(202) 245-0293** or at gliddenc@stb.dot.gov. Information also is available on the Board's Web site, at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>, under the "Environmental Matters" and "Key Cases" buttons.

The Board gave final authorization for the Powder River Basin Expansion Project in the proceeding entitled *Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation Construction into the Powder River Basin*, STB Finance Docket No. 33407 (STB served Feb. 15, 2006), *aff'd. Mayo Foundation et al v. STB*, 472 F.3d 545 (8th Cir. 2006).

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