

APPENDIX F

Minnesota Historical Society Comment Letter



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

June 14, 2011

Frank Pafko, Director
MnDOT Office of Environmental Stewardship
Transportation Building
395 John Ireland Boulevard, MS 620
St. Paul MN 55155-1899

RE: MN&S Freight Rail Study, including track improvements and relocations
Hennepin County
SHPO Number: 2011-2325

Dear Mr. Pafko:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet prepared for above project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Minnesota Historical Society by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act and the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act.

Based on the information provided, we agree that the project is unlikely to affect any known or anticipated archaeological sites. Further, we agree that the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Depot, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is screened from the proposed project by intervening buildings and vegetation, and will not be adversely affected by the project. Therefore we anticipate no negative effects on known or likely cultural resources as a result of this project.

Please note that this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36CFR800, procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for the protection of historic properties. If this project is considered for federal assistance, it should be submitted to our office with reference to the assisting federal agency.

Please contact me at (651) 259-3456 if you have any questions on our review of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mary Ann Heidemann'.

Mary Ann Heidemann, Manager
Government Programs and Compliance