

RICHARD E. WEICHER

Vice President & Sr. General Counsel

## **BNSF Railway Company**

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Daniel E Soler Project Dir.-Blue Line Extension Project METRO Blue line LRT Extension 5514 West Broadway, Suite 200 Crystall, MN 55428

Mr. Soler:

This is in response to your letter of December 22 concerning the Blue Line Extension (BLRT) light rail project.

BNSF is not prepared to proceed with any discussion of passenger rail in this corridor at this time. As we explained in discussions some time ago, we do not believe the Blue Line light rail project would be consistent with our passenger principles or protect the long-term viability of freight service along the Monticello Subdivision.

Very truly yours,

Richard E Weicher

Richard E. Weisher

## REW/tmo

cc: Alene Tchourumoff, Chair, Metropolitan Council
Travis Talvitie, Legislative Director for Senator Amy Klobuchar
Mark Fuhrman, Program Director New Starts, Metropolitan Council