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For Immediate Release

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DM&E Disappointed in FRA Decision. *Expects to move forward on Alternatives*

Sioux Falls, SD – Kevin Schieffer, President & CEO of the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern (DM&E) Railroad, made the following statement today in response to the Federal Railroad Administration's decision to deny the DM&E's Federal Railroad Administration Railroad Rehabilitation Improvement & Financing program loan application.

"While DM&E is disappointed in the Federal Railroad Administration's decision denying our loan application, we expect to move forward and will spend some time assessing alternatives to accomplish that objective. This project is too important to the future of our company, regional rail transportation and the many supporters in the agriculture and energy sectors, the communities we serve, and beyond who are relying on it. DM&E will make appropriate announcements about next steps in the process as it moves forward."

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