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**JILL BILLINGS**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**REP. BILLINGS AND DEMOCRATIC COLLEAGUES REQUEST ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY FOR BNSF RAILROAD**

Madison – State Representative Jill Billings (D-95), in conjunction with Senator Jennifer Shilling (D-32) and Representative Steve Doyle (D-94) sent a letter to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources requesting officials to conduct an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) regarding the BNSF Railroad application to develop an additional track over the La Crosse River Marsh. Local Representatives submitted this letter in conjunction with today’s public hearing on the application. Rep. Billings released the following statement regarding the request for an EIS:

“The La Crosse River Marsh is a vital component of the La Crosse community, and it is exceptionally important that measures be taken to ensure that the essential functions of the marsh are preserved,” said Billings. “In order to preserve the delicate environmental and ecological balance of the La Crosse River Marsh, it is crucial that the DNR conduct an Environmental Impact Study, and assess potential impacts of the proposed development.”

Billings added, “The people of La Crosse, too, are concerned about impacts of the development. An Environmental Impact Study would only help to quell concerns and provide further illumination on whether or not this project is a sound decision in the La Crosse area.”

A copy of the letter is attached.

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