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Dickinson County Board of Supervisors:

BNSF wishes to clarify the record with regard to reported concerns with the disposal of material related to the Doon, IA derailment at the Waste Management (WM) landfill in Dickinson County.

The cleanup of the derailment site is under the oversight of the USEPA and Iowa DNR, which includes providing approval for remediation and waste management activities.

The materials currently being disposed of at the landfill are solid wastes consisting of minimal amounts of soil along with mostly woody debris, corn, and/or soybeans which may have a thin layer of dried oil solids on them. There are no liquids or sludge being disposed at the landfill. The landfill's proximity to the site and capacity for these solid waste materials will help ensure that BNSF can return agricultural land to Iowa farmers for productive use as soon as possible.

As required by the landfill's regulatory permit and waste approval process, BNSF profiled the waste and submitted analytical results, by a certified independent third-party laboratory, for review by WM for potential acceptance of the waste. After review, WM has determined that the waste meets their permit's acceptance criteria with regard to materials that can be safely and legally disposed there. The analytical results also have been reviewed by IDNR and the results show these waste materials are not considered a hazardous waste. Additional solid waste and soil materials are expected to be disposed at the landfill in the future, but only if they meet regulatory requirements and WM's acceptance criteria.

WM has the appropriate financial, technical and physical capacity to help BNSF safely manage the waste. The landfill is a State permitted Subtitle D landfill with both a liner and leachate collection system as well as a network of monitoring wells to ensure protection of the environment. WM also maintains Financial Assurance and Post Closure care funds to ensure the site meets both State and Federal standards for monitoring, closure and maintenance of the site. The above requirements and characteristics ensure protectiveness of environmental resources both in the short term and the long term. We know that such protection is of great importance to the County, and it is also of great importance to BNSF.

Respectfully,

Andy Williams