

DICK SHOUP
MONTANA, 1ST DISTRICT

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1127 LONGWORTH BUILDING
PHONE: (202) 225-3211

COMMITTEES:
INTERSTATE AND
FOREIGN COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND AERONAUTICS

COMMITTEE
ON COMMITTEES

ROY JULIAN
WASHINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

CHET DREHER
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DISTRICT OFFICES:
528 SANDERS
HELENA, MONTANA 59601
P.O. Box 1509
MISSOULA, MONTANA 59801

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

May 13, 1974

Mr. Michael Sol
4611 North Avenue West
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear ~~Mr. Sol~~ *Mike*:

I appreciated receiving your letter concerning the proposed Milwaukee Road's phase out of its electrified districts in May of this year.

In response to your statement that you hadn't seen any evidence of any action by me to try to insure that the Milwaukee Road did not do what they planned, I want to make the following comments.

I personally met with the President of that railroad in my Washington, D. C. office during which I argued strongly for keeping the electrified line. He argued that the costs, obsolescence, and other factors required their planned action. I pointed out the Nation's energy problems versus using diesel fuel and I argued about the possible job losses. I also reported this meeting via a press release.

Following this meeting I wrote to EPA, DOT, FRA, FPC, and others asking for their assistance in maintaining the electrification. Not one of these agencies had anything significant to contribute.

I thoroughly agree with your concern for this electrified railroad. Since we are in an energy shortage, and are increasing our reliance on railroads for transporting people and goods, renewed consideration should be given to a continuation of this valuable electrified railroad.

Armed with the information from your letter, I will attempt to get answers for you without using your name and as soon as I get a response, I'll be contacting you again.

Sincerely,

DS
DICK SHOUP
Member of Congress

DS/bw

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July 18, 1974

Mr. Michael Sol
4611 North Avenue West
Missoula, MT 59801

Dear ~~Mr. Sol~~ *Mike*

As promised, I contacted the President of the Milwaukee Railroad for some of the data you had requested back in May. While I'm not certain that I have written to you since that time, I thought I would now, even at the risk of duplication.

Like yourself, I was similarly unable to get the details you wished. It appears that they are holding to the economics of keeping the electrification.

For your information, I have taken legislative action by introducing H. Res. 1178 on June 17, 1974, copy enclosed, which would stop their de-electrification effort.

Sincerely,

DS
DICK SHOUP
Member of Congress

DS:rjs

Enclosure