



## **Thune outlines South Dakota rail service issues with STB**

Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) recognizes Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.), ranking member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, for his recent remarks at a hearing before the Surface Transportation Board (STB) regarding rail issues.

Specifically, Sen. Thune pointed to the impact of disruptions in rail service on South Dakota farmers, ethanol producers, and other small business owners who rely on that service. He also emphasized concern over deliveries of crude oil and coal and the need to ensure that all rail shippers receive adequate and efficient rail service.

Sen. Thune noted the large number of rail shippers who testified, and gave specific examples of how costs that were being absorbed by South Dakota companies ultimately impact consumers.

The Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee has jurisdiction over freight railroads as well as the STB.

This issue is of utmost importance to MRES and its entire membership due to ongoing challenges with BNSF Railway and the STB regarding disputes involving the cost of coal deliveries to the Laramie River Station.

MRES thanks Sen. Thune for his comments and support on this issue as well as many others facing the electric utility industry.