

Date: April 18, 2006

To: SD Hwy 34 – 4 the Future

From: Mark Stoller
Madison Farmers Elevator

Re: The expansion of Hwy 34 to 4 lanes.

Over the past 6 years Madison Farmers Elevator has grown in grain volume from 6 million bushels of grain handled to over 22 million bushels of grain handled. We continue to plan on additional growth. Eastern Lake County and Moody County has great growth potential for our business and we expect the amount of truck traffic to increase in years to come. At an average truck of 600 bushels of grain, Madison Farmers Elevator unloaded well over 40,000 trucks in 2005. Generally speaking 50% of those loads are concentrated in to 3 months of harvest. This compounds potential traffic hazards. I believe the expansion of Highway 34 to four lanes would not only enhance the local economy, it would be a vital step to in helping farmers safely deliver their grains to the Madison Farmers Elevator. I support the expansion of Hwy 34 to 4 lanes in the near future.