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DEED OF RELEASE--PRIOR LIEN MORTGAGE

No. 16909

THIS INDENTURE, Made this 23rd day of December, 1968, between BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, a corporation under the laws of the State of New York, Trustee, hereinafter called the "Trustee," party of the first part, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY, party of the second part,

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, the Northern Pacific Railway Company, a corporation under the laws of the State of Wisconsin (which has succeeded to lands and rights to lands granted by Congress to the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, a corporation created and existing by and under an act of Congress of the United States of America, entitled "An act granting lands to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from Lake Superior to Puget Sound on the Pacific coast by the Northern Route," approved July 2, 1864) in and by a certain mortgage bearing date the tenth day of November, A.D. 1896, did mortgage unto The Mercantile Trust Company, as Trustee, certain railways and other property, including the lands hereinafter described, which mortgage was given to secure the payment of the prior lien railway and land grant gold bonds of said Northern Pacific Railway Company to be issued to an amount not exceeding \$130,000,000, and

WHEREAS, said The Mercantile Trust Company has been merged into and with Bankers Trust Company, party of the first part, which has thereby become the corporate successor of said The Mercantile Trust Company, and the Northern Pacific Railway Company, the mortgagor in said mortgage, did