

Surface Transportation Board

Attn: Docket No. FD 359252

395 E Street SW

Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Re: Docket No. FD35952 Great Lake Basin Transportation, Inc.

Dear Office of the Surface Transportation Board,

I am a land owner whose property is slated to be affected by the proposed Great Lake Basin Transportation (GLBT) Rail Route. I have stated my reasons for opposition to GLBT's request for Order of Protection in a previous comment and I support your decision to deny that request. I am actively opposed to this rail building for various and numerous reasons listed below.

1. Use of eminent domain in obtaining lands for profit of a venture capital funded project.
2. That a very large amount of America's heartland would be owned by unknown parties, taken from those that worked for decades to obtain those lands
3. That we have a fully operational business that creates jobs and tax revenue which could be put out of business as we are an agri-tainment farm that relies on the use of green space and the beauty and peace that they provide
4. The closing of roadways. In very simple terms, the proposed route would close many and various routes in and out of the greater Chicago land area. The traffic used by the closed roads would seek alternative routes, thus making the roads that remain open subject to traffic which would bottleneck the entire region
5. The road closings would greatly affect first responders, school districts, farming and businesses.
6. The environmental issues in the route. The area on our farm where the proposed route is located is through a permanent wetland easement. An area where we gave up economic gain for greater good to protect the watersheds of the area. The fact that this area may be used for a possible hazardous cargo route makes that sacrifice foolish on our part and very disheartening that same government that commitment to protect those areas as well is now in process to allow for its destruction. Our story is just a microcosm of the route as it goes through many sensitive areas, environmental as well as historic, habitats and centennial farms and the splitting up of families, dwellings being located on different sides of the tracks, etc.

I could continue, there are many other reasons why a no build is the proper response. GLBT has changed so many parameters, not limited to expressing the desire to build an airport and toll road. Their application seems incomplete at best. I urge you to deny the request to build this rail road.

Thank you, Karen Williams, 4769 Yale Bridge Rd, Rockton, IL 61072