

ATTN: Dave Navecky -Docket No. FD35952
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Navecky:

I would like to express my concerns over the proposed Great Lakes Basin Transportation, LLC rail line project. Docket # 35952. I oppose the project and ask the Surface Transportation Board to deny the proposal. My concerns are:

First and foremost, the loss of some of the most fertile farmland in the U.S. Once it's gone, there is no reversal. Top soil will be moved to build grades and for all the flyovers of highways, bridges and other rail lines. Large areas of fields will be useless for agriculture as farm fields will be cut up, natural drainage will be affected, as will compaction caused by the rail construction. And leaking rail cars or chemical spills would forever destroy the soil. Only 2% of the people in the U.S. are farmers. We just can't continue the loss of any more precious farmland. Our farmers do a wonderful job providing food, but what happens when our farmland is gone?

Respectfully Submitted

by (signature) Judith K. McCoy (ph#) 815-393-4589

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