

DOCKET # FD 35952

Proposed GLB Rail Project – Rock County, WI.

Attention: Dave Navecky

Please consider our concerns and/or questions as written below, when making the Environmental Impact Study:

We own a 6-acre Farmette located along CTH A, near the Emerald Grove Road Intersection, in Johnstown Twp., Rock County. The proposed rail line location threatens our rural way of life, and that of our community, as we know it today. Our farmette will be located only ½ mile from the proposed rail.... we would see, hear, feel, breath trains rumbling through our countryside & adjacent farm fields, at 70 mph, 24/7.

We have serious concerns in regards to the proposed crossing gates and rail signals to be installed at the rail line crossing of CTH A. Heavy traffic flows along CTH A at plus 55 mph, with daily commuters that travel the CTH A corridor to reach work locations, not only to the City of Janesville, but to Interstate 90/39 to reach Madison and Rockford (Illinois) destinations. In addition, daily commuters use CTH A to and from Janesville, east into Walworth County work locations also. Crossing gates and rail signals would not only interrupt and stop this constant flow of traffic, but that of First Responder emergency vehicles, school buses, farm machinery & grain truck movement to field entrances along CTH A, plus truck transport from the Dairy on CTH A, as located about 2 miles west of this proposed crossing location.

CTH A is a heavily traveled main thoroughfare, used not only by our rural population of residences and businesses, but that of tourists in the summertime, heading out to the Lakes and Kettle Moraine Recreation Areas. CTH A is used for east and west travel as an alternative to STH 14, located 2 miles to the south of CTH A. CTH A is scheduled for road improvements in the year 2017. Improvement plans are in the design stage at this time. When or will the Rock County Public Works Engineer be notified of this proposed crossing ? Will a traffic count study be done ? Most certainly, a traffic count study would validate our traffic concerns.

In addition, we see there is a planned 50' Utility Easement within the proposed 200' rail corridor. Am I correct in assuming our public opinion would have no jurisdiction, input, or say, as to what type of utility, and/or multiple utilities could be placed either overhead or underground, within the private corridor of 50' ? How would this 50' corridor be accessed for facility placement and future maintenance ? Would utility encumbrances cause future problems for adjacent landowners ? Would the proposed private or public utility company be subject to scrutiny by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, who protects me, the public consumer ?

In the one mile stretch along CTH A, between Emerald Grove and Tarrant Road, there are nine residences. The proposed rail crossing is at the half way mark between these two intersecting town roads. Johnstown Township is a heavily populated area, with many rural residents and homes located along the intersecting and paralleling roads of the proposed rail line. Many of our friends and neighbors share the same or similar questions and concerns, including most importantly "certain devaluation of our properties".

We are opposed to the rail line being built in Johnstown Township, Rock Co.

Sincerely,

Mr & Mrs Rod & Nancy Larson

8504 E. County Road A, Janesville, WI 53546-9717 (Rock Co., Johnstown Twp.)