

EI-22738



Docket No. FD35952_01 - Citizens against the Great Lakes Basin LLC rail line project
Marsha
to:
david.navecky
05/05/2016 08:51 AM
Hide Details
From: Marsha <mstesdal@verizon.net>
To: david.navecky@stb.dot.gov

ATTN: Dave Navecky - Docket No. FD35952

Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis|
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Mr. Navecky:

I would like to express my concerns over the proposed Great Lakes Basin Transportation, LLC rail line project.

I oppose the entire Great Lakes Basin Transportation, LLC rail line project and ask the Surface Transportation Board to deny the Great Lakes Basin Transportation LLC rail line proposal.

I attended the meeting at Morris high School in Morris, Illinois on Monday, May 1, and was extremely disappointed that Frank Patton, Managing Partner at the Great Lakes Basin LLC rail line, did not completely or adequately answer questions to meet the needs of concerned farmers, landowners and community members. In fact, he gave us very vague answers and did not answer some questions.

As a landowner with the rail line projected to come directly through my centennial farm, I deserve to know the true facts and voice my opinion. Concerned citizens know the major concerns such as noise pollution, hazardous chemical and oil spills, increased ambulance response time and over 100 trains passing through their property each day. Frank Patton doesn't believe these are problems according to the answers he gave to various questions. They are real problems, but he doesn't have to deal with them on a daily basis like the landowners and community members. Frank Patton does not care about taking farmland out of production or he would not have proposed this rail line. In addition, he does not care about landowners' concerns. For example, he said landowners will be compensated \$20,000 per acre and free electricity. The people at the Morris meeting laughed at this statement! There is no compensation that would be enough for taking valuable farm land away from the landowner and disrupting the lives of so many people in our community. Our lives and values matter!

In conclusion, there are numerous problems associated with the rail line going through

farmland, country roads, over interstates and over the Illinois River. I am asking you to deny the Great Lakes Basin rail line because of environmental factors, taking valuable farmland out of production and the impact on agricultural production and activities. Safety is a priority for all people. Hazardous chemical and oil spills, derailments and increased response time for police, fire and ambulance emergency responders are relevant and important community concerns.

<!--[if !supportLineBreakNewLine]--><!--[endif]-->
Cindy Kohler

839 David St.

Kewanee, Illinois 61443

<!--[if !supportLineBreakNewLine]-->