

Hello... my name is Kathy and I'm a farmer in Grundy County. According to the maps I've seen, one of the farms our family is involved with will probably have a flyover. That flyover will sever a 160 acre field in half diagonally. That same flyover will also impact our accessibility to the fields at both ends; one end is a township road that may possibly be closed permanently...the other end is a state Route 47. That same flyover will also cut thru and crush the field tile during the Railroad construction, when thousands of dollars have been spent by the landowner so there is adequate drainage in his fields.

A portion of this farm is enrolled in the USDA's Conservation Reserve Program. As I understand the CRP contract...and I'm quoting here...#1 "A CRP participant agrees NOT to undertake any action on land under the participants control which tends to defeat the purpose of this contract, as determined by the CCC"...#2 "A participant agrees to control all weeds, insects, pests and other undesirable species to the extent necessary to ensure that the establishment and maintenance of the approved cover is adequately protected, and so on"... and #3 "A participant agrees NOT to disturb the acreage under contract during the primary nesting and brood rearing season for wildlife, except as approved by the CCC." All three of these points in a CRP contract would be **broken** if a RR line is allowed thru a farm; the NOISE pollution alone will disturb the wildlife in the area. And if a CRP contract is broken by a participant...he/she has to repay the CRP program payments they've received, plus interest. Is Great Lakes Basin RR going to pay the penalties on the CRP broken contracts?

USDA's conservation programs were intended to protect land and waterways, NOT be destroyed by a railroad of this magnitude.

Thank you.