



**STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
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INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

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April 5, 2016

Mr. Dave Navecky
Surface Transportation Board
Docket No. FD 35952
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Navecky,

I am writing you today in response to the Great Lakes Basin Transportation Inc. (GLBT) plans to file either a petition for exemption pursuant to 49 U.S.C § 10502, or an application pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10901, seeking authority from the Surface Transportation Board to construct and operate an approximately 278-mile rail line.

I urge the Surface Transportation Board to schedule a public hearing in Porter County, Indiana in order to gain valuable input from local citizens, business owners and local officials who may be affected by the proposed GLBT rail line. The current rail line proposed by GLBT would run directly through Porter County which is one of the most rapidly developing areas in the state. As State Representative for House District 4, Chair of the House Transportation Committee and a member of the Northwest Indiana Planning Commission, I have concerns that this rail line proposal be thoroughly vetted in all impacted communities as it could have significant consequences for citizens, businesses and regional coordinated planning and development.

I thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns regarding the need for a public hearing in Porter County. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 317-232-9619.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Soliday".

Edmond Soliday
State Representative, District 4

cc: Congressman Peter Visclosky
State Representative Thomas Dermody
State Representative Julie Olthoff
State Representative Michael Aylesworth
State Representative Hal Slager

ES/ms



State Representative
Ed Soliday
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