

April 1 2016

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

Dear Mr. Navecky

We understand cutting rail congestion in Chicago, and that it's a speedy route and short cut. These are some of our concerns with the GLBR passing through our area.

1. They are saying, that they will be carrying the big four, Oil, Ethanol, Coal and Corn as well as any other chemicals typically hauled by train.. Coal and Corn are no problem but, the Chemicals, Oils and Ethanol give us nightmares considering what it would do to our drinking water in the advent of a spill. Everyone out here is on private shallow wells. One, just one, spill could very well render our wells useless. We live in a very rural area and the first responders are ill equipped to deal with spills from derailments carrying hazardous materials.
2. The timber that the tracks are going through to the south of us, around mile marker 130 is the home of Wild Turkeys. It also has a high water table. This timber has been basically untouched for years because of the ravines that run through it. The ravines that the rail will cross feed the Creek, Fox River and then the Illinois River. There are trees in there hundreds of years old. The wild flowers that abound in that timber are amazing.
3. The road it crosses at mile marker 130.5 will probably be closed because of the angle that the tracks cross it. Which will prevent it from being used as it is now as a bypass of Sheridan for people going to and from work. It also is traveled by School Buses, Emergency vehicles, Utility vehicles and, Lp deliveries.
4. This railroad will be crossing at least 5 rivers with the potential of polluting them if there should be a derailment on them. This really is a concern considering the number of derailments that have happen in recent years. Example a Benzine spill near Wedron, IL.
5. The area here has a very high water table and is very susceptible to flooding especially between mile marker 130 and 132. Farmers have a hard enough time of draining the land as it is. What this construction will do to the field tiles will make matters worse. Leaving them with even more unusable land.
6. The tracks will be running in close proximity to an LP refueling facility by the highway south of Sheridan.

We would ask that you please consider all the above and the impact it will have on many of the land and home owner along this purposed railway and suggest to the Great Lakes Basin Railroad some changes that would have less impact.

Sincerely

Donald R Burton 4-1-2016
Rose M Burton 4-1-2016

Donald and Rose Burton.
3960 E 2650 Rd
Sheridan, IL 60551
815 496 2443

Is the short cut + fast route a priority
over human life + wild life?
Two train tracks means no more enjoying
the birds - deer - squirrels - coyotes rabbits coons +
QUIETNESS

Don-Rose Burton
3960 E. 2650 Rd.
Sheridan, WY
60551

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