

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

Dear Surface Transportation Board,

I have many concerns about the proposed Great Lakes Basin Rail Line. My family has farmed in this area for generations. Our family farm was bought with years of hard work and many improvements have been implemented over that time to make it some of the finest farmland in Illinois.

My family farms land that the GLB Rail Line will cut right in half. A train track will stop the drainage tiles from working, and make it difficult, or impossible to get to the cut off parcels of land. The families who own it will lose income and property evaluation.

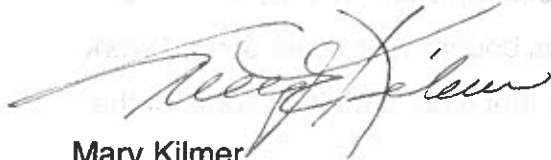
Many roads in this area are proposed to be closed, as GLB does not want to pay for gated crossings. There is already a lengthy time for emergency vehicles to respond for calls. This added time could cause loss of life. School children could have to ride the bus for hours to and from school.

Our schools get their funding from the tax we pay on our land. The devaluation of this land and houses that are close to the track will result in a short fall of funds to educate our children.

The proposed rail road can have up to 110 trains a day. This will cause many delays to people trying to get to work and school. There is also the chance of derailments and possible spills. The emergency responders in our area are not prepared to respond to these possible spills.

My family has been farming for generations, and we have worked very hard to protect this land and make it productive for future generations. The Great Lakes Basin Railroad proposes to end all that. They have shown no interest in moving it to preserve farmland, and are not interested in the fact that farmers do not wish to sell land, their grandfathers worked so hard to make a living from.

Please deny Great Lakes Basin Rail Road the right to force a railroad on people who do not want one!



Mary Kilmer

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