



City of Seymour

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E1-20636

Rec'd 12/2/14

November 25, 2014

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Mr. Dave Navecky
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Room 1104
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Docket No. FD 35523, CSX Transportation, Inc.—Joint Use—Louisville
& Indiana Railroad Company, Inc.

Dear Mr. Navecky:

I am writing to express some concerns that I have as Mayor of the City of Seymour, Indiana regarding the above-noted proposed project. Although we are not opposed to progress and improvements to the rail line in general, we do have serious concerns about the public safety impact of increased rail traffic on the LIRC line that would be expected if the proposed improvements to the rail line are made.

The north-south LIRC line passes through the downtown commercial district of our City. There is a grade crossing of the LIRC line at U.S. Highway 50 in downtown Seymour. U.S. 50 is a four-lane highway through Seymour. It is the major east-west street through our City. Most of the commercial retail businesses in Seymour are located along U.S. Highway 50. It carries a high volume of passenger car and truck traffic.

A significant increase in the number of trains traveling the LIRC line and blocking several street and highway grade crossings simultaneously would have a negative impact on public safety vehicles being able to cross over the rail lines in an emergency. Additional train traffic on that line will result in more delays to automobile and truck traffic on our major east-west highway.

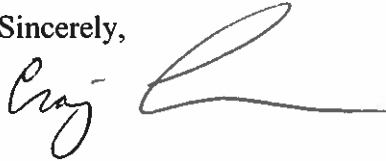
Interstate Highway 65, lies approximately 2 miles east of the LIRC. Personal injury accidents along I-65 often result in trauma patients being transported to our local hospital, Schneck Medical Center. A majority of motor vehicle accidents in the City of Seymour also occur on the east side of the LIRC line. Schneck Medical Center and the Jackson County Ambulance station are both located on the west side of the LIRC. Train traffic on the LIRC would hinder public safety vehicles in either reaching the accidents on the east side quickly or in transporting injured folks to the hospital.

The addition of an overpass or an underpass somewhere in the City of Seymour would exacerbate the concerns that we have. The City of Seymour, however, does not have the financial wherewithal to build a new overpass or underpass. We would need substantial financial assistance from the LIRC and CSXT as well as from the state and federal government for such a project to be built.

Please take in to consideration the public safety concerns I have put forth in making your recommendations concerning this proposed project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig", followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.

Craig Luedeman, Mayor
City of Seymour, Indiana