

April 8, 2016

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

To Members of the Surface Transportation Board:

I am writing as a concerned community member, landowner, teacher, mother, and generational farming family member. The proposed railroad construction impacting parts of Ogle County and surrounding counties and communities is a severe threat to the safety of community members directly impacted by the proposed construction, as well as those traveling in and around the impacted communities. Please allow me to outline my concern regarding the proposal of railroad construction and potential railroad traffic in our area.

How will this type of traffic effect our ecosystem? Have you ever watched the video "How the Wolves Change Rivers"? I encourage you to do so. Here is the link:

<https://youtu.be/ysa5OBhXz-Q>. You may also search the title in YouTube. It is a documentary explaining the habitual effect reintroducing wolves to Yellowstone National Park has had on all aspects of the ecosystems, from rivers to vegetation to hawks to rabbits to bears. I realize the railroad is not traveling through any national parks, but it is traveling through many habitats of our wildlife and has a lasting impact on the ecosystem. Check out the outlined video. I promise those four minutes will be educational in not only this situation but for future reference as well.

I ask you to consider all stakeholders involved when making such drastic, permanent decisions. Our future generations are counting on you to vote NO!

Sincerely,



Heather Alderks

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