

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

Dear Mr. Navecky:

I would like to express my concerns over the proposed Great Lakes Basin Transportation, LLC rail line project. Docket # 35952. I oppose the project and ask the Surface Transportation Board to deny the proposal. My concerns are:

I am an 85 year old "Sorta Retired Farmer" in Kankakee County, Sumner township, Sections 5 & 8, in the location of the Proposed GLB railyard. We moved here in 1974 from CROOK County, IL to get out in the open--away from the congestion and development around us where I was living on and farming land that my father and grandfather had farmed since 1870--over 100 years, and to make room for our 5 kids, including 2 school aged boys. We felt we would be out in the country forever. So far we have successfully battled 2 garbage dumps, the Peotone airport and the Illiana Expressway. For Now. Now down the tracks comes the GLB Railroad--the worst yet. Frank Patton Stated at the May 2 meeting in Morris that he wanted to build a Legacy for his children and grandchildren. But at the loss of the Legacy, we and our family have been working Hard for--for 41 years. Our 2 sons are farming here full-time with hopes that a grandson could join them in the future. the GLB would put them out of business--would all be destroyed for one selfish dream--a private enterprise. I have been to all 4 of the meetings in this area and find many holes, lies changes etc. in this project. His stories keep changing.

Purpose and need is to relieve congestion in Chicago. That is their problem. Don't go 30 to 60 miles away to ruin our lives and pollute our area. I am sure some of the holdups could be solved by utilizing existing track & facilities in a more efficient way. The EJ&E just so of Chicago Heights was built over 80 years ago for this very reason. I cross it at least 2 times a week and see very little traffic on it. I want Frank Patton to come here and see the Legacy we as well as many of our neighbors have built. He wants to destroy 15,000 acres of good farm ground in our township. And Pollute it. No Farm No Food. There are many house wells and DEEP irrigation wells--yes 400' plus just in this 15,000 acre yard area. No doubt an easy path for diesel and other polluting chemicals to get to the water aquifers.

Respectfully Submitted by (signature) Ralph Paartberg (ph#) 708-258-3238

(address)



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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

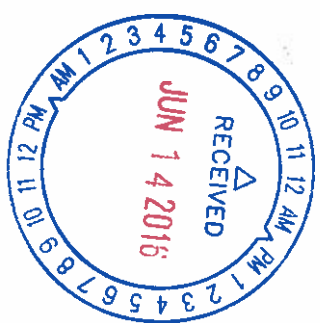
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ATTN: Dave Navecky (Docket # 35952) 20423-0012



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