



Lowell Scoping Meeting
April 12, 2016
EI-22551

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF LAKE

© 1049-44

2293 North Main Street
Crown Point, Indiana 46307

GERRY J. SCHEUB, President

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Surface Transportation Board: Public Comment Period

1. Lowell Elementary Schools & Buckley Homestead
 - a. Lowell Elementary School property backs up to rail line right away
 - b. Noise, vibration, bells and whistles will definitely effect the ability to concentrate and comprehend with the continuous train traffic
 - c. Special needs children would have to be transferred to other school causing stress on the children and hardship on the parents
 - d. School buses would have more R.R. Crossings causing additional time for children and re-scheduling bus schedules, plus dangerous crossing as we have many mornings when visibility is very limited.
2. Public Safety
 - a. Chemical spills by Buckley & School's would be disastrous. No equipment to fight this type of emergency
 - b. Lowell would have to fund a satellite police station and fire station as response time could be very serious and could cost lives. Who foots the bill?
3. Drainage
 - a. Loss of ability for surface water to drain south.
 - b. This would cause crop loss to farmers and it would increase flooding.
 - c. Damage to field tile
 - d. Breeding areas for viruses-mosquitoes etc.
4. Kankakee river and Wetland
Tremendous effect on wildlife in wetlands, Plant life and Kankakee River fishing and recreation
5. Aquifer
All homes in Lowell are supplied by well water, if this Aquifer (only source) is threatened by a spill, oil and hazardous material it would be devastating to this whole area.

6. Farmland

Irrigation system would be cut in half and prove useless. This would be very costly to farmers, who pay for crop loss and irrigation equipment cost.

7. Population

Rte 30 South has one of the fastest growing area's in the state. This would stop all growth and future development in this area. Air quality would become an immediate concern with all the new railroad crossings

8. I don't see any other rail road companies jumping on board as they have been spending millions upgrading their system's

9. Alternate route

The route I have proposed would be much safer. But, I feel and the majority of the people here do not believe this request is doable and request the Federal government (STB) to reject this request by Great Lakes Basin Rail line as this is not environmentally sound and totally harmful for the quality of life and safety of South Lake County.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gerry J. Scheub".

Gerry J. Scheub, President
Lake County Commissioner