



October 29, 2023

Andrea Poole
Surface Transportation Board, OEA Docket No. FD 36616
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

and by e mail to <https://www.stb.gov/proceedings-actions/e-filing/environmental-comments>

RE: Response to Docket No. FD 36616, Savage Tooele Railroad Company – Construction and Operation – Line of Railroad in Tooele County, Utah; **Issuance of Draft Environmental Assessment and Notice of Public Comment Period** (“Draft EA”)

Dear Ms. Poole:

Erda City as a Utah municipality provides the following comments to the Draft EA.

Environmental Impact to Residents

The proposed railroad has a significant impact to resident that live in the immediate adjacent area. Such impact that needs more study includes but at not limited to noise and vibration caused by railroad operation which is compounded by night operation that would disturb the sleep of such residents. Furthermore, these residents all have well that provide culinary water and vibration could impact the wells.

Environmental Impact to Wildlife

The City has information that there are red hawks nesting in the area. The impact to these nesting hawks needs more study.

Environmental Impact to Soil

The City has information that there is lead contamination north of Erda Way. The impact to lead contamination needs more study.

Alternative Alignments

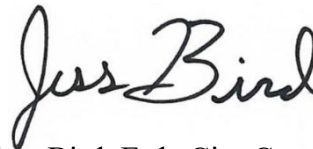
The Draft EA does not consider alternative alignments such as east of Sheep Lane. Such an alignment would reduce the number of road crossings and reduces the risk of automobile/train accidents.

Public Outcry

The Erda City Council has received numerous phone calls, e-mails, and face to face meetings with residents that indicates unanimous disapproval to the Railroad Extension. In fact, the Erda City Council would characterize it as a public outcry against the Railroad Extension.

In conclusion, we appreciate the opportunity to register our objections and provide our comments to the Draft EA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jess Bird". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jess Bird, Erda City Council Chair