



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

June 12, 2025

Ms. Danielle Gosselin
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: STB Docket No. FD 36833 Lampwrights, LLC

Dear Director Gosselin:

I am writing this letter to receive more information about the project initiated by Lampwrights, LLC for a proposed waste-by-rail project expected to cross Horton Township using the right-of-way of the former Pittsburgh-Buffalo Railroad, commonly known as the Toby Branch.

Horton Township supervisors have contacted my office expressing their concerns over this project. Despite the conclusion of the comment period, I would like to share some of the concerns the community has brought to my attention, including:

1. **Emergency Response Impact:** The Proposed Lead Track crosses State Route 219 between the homes of many of our volunteer firefighters and the township fire station. A mile-long train will severely impede emergency response times and endanger public safety.
2. **Property Rights and Land Use:** Numerous property owners along the Proposed Lead Track claim ownership of the former railbed. Many have built outbuildings and other structures on the land and may have legitimate adverse possession claims. These residents are anxious about potential eminent domain proceedings and lack legal clarity on their rights.
3. **Public Utilities and Infrastructure:** The proposed route parallels State Route 219 and threatens water and sewage systems, including infrastructure installed by the Brockway Area Sewage Authority. The construction would also involve four road crossings and potentially four new bridges.
4. **Environmental Sensitivity:** The rail line crosses several important water bodies, including Oyster Run, Mead Run, Bear Run, and Toby Creek. These streams, some of which feed into wetlands, are critical habitats for wildlife and fish populations and may qualify as exceptional value wetlands.
5. **Community Impact and Equity:** No benefits to Horton Township have been articulated by the developers. Residents anticipate reduced property values, environmental degradation, increased noise, and risks associated with shipping out-of-state waste. The

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landfill already receives 6,000 tons of daily refuse, largely from states with stricter landfill use policies like New York and Massachusetts.

I understand that your office will soon determine whether Lampwrights must complete an Environmental Assessment (EA) or a more comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Given the clear environmental, economic, and public safety concerns raised by this project, it is imperative that you include Horton Township in your EA or EIS. With the size and scope of this project, it is necessary to include community leadership in this process.

I would also like to request a briefing with your office and my congressional staff. To setup a meeting, please contact my Senior Legislative Assistant, Connor Rose, at 202.225.5121 or connor.rose@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Glenn" and last name "Thompson" clearly distinguishable.

Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress

GT/av

cc: United States Department of Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy