

FD 35952

GLBT Transportation

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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
May 22, 2017
Part of
Public Record

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Please deny the motion for protective order to keep the GLBT investors a secret from the public.

The people who own land in the path of the proposed railroad and rail yard have rights. Should the property owners not have the right to know what individuals want to use eminent domain to take their land? Moreover, if eminent domain is to be used for projects that are "for the public good" does not the public have the right to know who these investors are? Perhaps knowing who the investors are would tell the public some pertinent information about the project.

For example, if a hypothetical person "John Doe" formed a corporation called "Great Kankakee River Water Company" and was asking for the right to withdraw water from the Kankakee River, would not the public potentially gain some insight into the project's scope if the public knew the investors were, for example, from a foreign country? Might not the public feel differently--and evaluate whether the project was in the public good---if the investors could potentially bottle and sell Kankakee River water in foreign countries?

Furthermore, if the hypothetical investors of the company asking to draw water from the Kankakee River owned, for example, a hydraulic fracking company that used water to frack for natural gas, would not the public evaluate those investors' intentions differently than, say, a group of investors who owned 1,000s of acres of organic vegetable farms, or investors who had in the past bottled water? It is likely that different members of the public would judge the "public good" of each group's use of the Kankakee River's water differently. Some people, for example, would likely judge an organic vegetable farm as creating more public good than a company that bottled water and shipped it hundreds of miles away in single-use plastic bottles.

This is a long way of saying, please, allow the public all the information we need to determine whether GLBT's projects are in the public good.

There is only one Kankakee River. There is a limited supply of farmland in this world. The public has the right to scrutinize any project seeking to build something that could potentially harm these irreplaceable resources.