



PO Box 1623
Bloomington, IL 61702-1623
PH: 309-557-3257

www.ilcorn.org

243219

May 17, 2017

Finance Docket No. 35952

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
May 18, 2017
Part of
Public Record

Re: *Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc – Authority to Construct and Operate a Rail Line in Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin*

Illinois Corn Growers Association requests an extension of the filing deadline regarding the authority to construct a railroad line to allow 90 days for comments.

There are many farmers who are impacted by the proposed route of the new rail line. These farmers could potentially have their tracts of land cut through the middle by the new rail, see decreased property values, have to consider new management for livestock in pastures, and more. These farmers may also see incredible value in the rail line to ship their commodities more efficiently to out-of-state markets.

Either way, the corn farmers we represent deserve the time to thoroughly consider the application and the route, which will be extremely difficult in the current 35-day period at this time of year.

Illinois corn farmers are in the middle of planting season, and although planting was finished early in 2017, the extensive rains and moisture have caused many problems for corn farmers all over the state. Their minds are focused on planting and growing a corn crop that will thrive, not on providing comments about rail lines.

A 90-day comment period will allow our members the time to get through planting season, and be able to turn their focus to other important matters that impact their farms.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Justin Durdan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Justin" and last name "Durdan" clearly distinguishable.

Justin Durdan, President



Illinois Corn Growers Association

www.ilcorn.org

PO Box 1623 Bloomington, IL 61705-1623

PH: 309-557-3257

ilcorn@ilcorn.org

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This certificate of service is stating that all parties of record have been served a copy of the filing.

Justin Durdan, President