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GLBT Applicatin
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Surface Transportation Board:

I am responding in opposition to the application for Great Lakes Basin Transportation to construct and operate a railroad through Kankakee County, Illinois. The proposed rail route will negatively impact my centennial farm operation. My farm size will be reduced by 1/5th of its current acreage, and leave small parcels of farmland on the opposite side of the tracks. Current water drainage courses will be negatively altered, creating poorly drained farmland, and decimating crop production. Township roads will be closed along the railway route, forcing farm equipment and all rural transportation onto the fewer open roads crossing the rail route. Traffic congestion will increase on the roads crossing the railway, and safety concerns for police, ambulance, and firefighter personnel, and their response times to emergencies will also increase. Furthermore, school bus traffic will also be forced to travel more congested roadways, backtracking along dead-end township roads to pick-up children. All the closed township roads will result in increased travel time for children on rural bus routes. All the closed township roads and county highways will result in numerous safety problems, which townships and county governments will not have the funds to address.