

FD 35952

GLBT

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
ATTN: DOCKET NO. FD 35952
395 E STREET, S.W.
WASHINGTON,DC 20423-0001

As a concerned citizen and land owner, I wish to file the following comments regarding the proposed GLBT rail line,

PUBLIC SAFETY: In the event that some roads may be closed or current roads would have rail crossings. In this rural community, I feel that would greatly increase response time for police, fire and emergency vehicles and make their job even more hazardous than need be.

SCHOOLS: All rural schools are facing very difficult times. Creating longer bus routes to avoid closed roads and increasing dangerous situations crossing rail tracks are not good solutions.

ENVIROMENTAL: With the construction of such a project, it would require the movement of large quantities of soil, affecting the natural drainage characteristics of the land. In some cases rendering the adjacent land unproductive and useless. It would also disturb any current sub surface drainage system that is in place and possibly eliminate a currently usable outlet.

ECOSYSTEM: There currently are many areas locally that are a natural balance of wildlife vegetation, trees, water, and the land itself. A project like this could ruin this delicate balance.

AGRICULTURAL: Most farmers today travel rural roads to travel to other fields and farms. If this proposal was a reality, it would force farmers to drive longer distances to tend to livestock and do field work. That means more unproductive time plus the increased risk of driving large slow moving (20 m.p.h. or less) equipment on main busy highways thus endangering themselves and the general motoring public. In some cases the proposed route would dissect a farm diagonally, making it at least much more difficult to farm if even accessible.

SUMMARY: My family has farmed these family farms for four generations being accountable to ourselves to make a living and pass the land on to the next generation, with the goal of it being better than we received it. I have thought long and hard about this project and can not see any benefit for anyone in the community, Just for this private company wanting to make a quick dollar at someone elses expense. I urge you to consider it for what it is!

Sincerely,

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