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GLBT

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I ask the Surface Transportation Board to deny the Great Lakes Basin Transportation proposed Protective Order. While the approval requirements in 49 CFR 1150 and 49 USC 10901 are a bit vague and ambiguous, it is essential this process remain as transparent, open, and public as possible. We, as a society have a right to know who is desiring to build infrastructure projects across private property. To use a Protective Order to hide the names of a projects investors is the beginning step of eminent domain abuse.

GLBT has applied for a Certificate of Public Convenience. In doing so, GLBT claims...

As part of the Application, GLBT is filing as Appendix 2 a redacted "public" version of the List of Stockholders, and is filing, under seal, a "highly confidential" copy of the List of Stockholders along with this Motion.

...ensuring that proprietary and commercially sensitive information in the List of Stockholders and in other documents will be protected from unnecessary public disclosure and will be used only in connection with this proceeding and not for any other business or commercial use.

If the names of investors in GLBT is such "proprietary information", why did the creators of the STB's standards and regulations ask for such information in an application for a CPCN? If this was UP, BN, CSX, NS, CP, or CN requesting to build GLBT the list of investors would be irrelevant as this information would be public knowledge. With GLBT request for a Protective Order, it limits the public's ability to properly research and vet the application.

With so many railroads and tracks failed since the Civil War, we must learn from history and not cut corners on the application process. We do not need another set of abandoned tracks scaring our

country side because we neglected to properly adhere to siting procedures. We need to hold this process in high regards.

Also, the examples cited by GLBT are rather weak. The owners of Tongue River RR Co were widely known. A person can view the owners of that failed project on Wikipedia. The Ohio Rivers Partners LLC example involved a bankruptcy with a single spur going to a single tenant industrial park. That was not a proposed new construction the size and magnitude of GLBT.

If the investors in GLBT desire to hide from the public stigma of pushing a socially embarrassing project, that is not the concern of the STB. Let's have an open process and allow affected landowners know their opponents. This proposed project could culminate in over 23,000 acres of eminent domain proceeding. There is a need and right to know all the information on the CPCN application.