

FD 35952

Great Lakes Basin

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Public necessity is hard to define, but in the case of Great Lakes Basin it is easy to see the project is not in the public interest. By the Surface Transportation Board's own admission this project has generated unprecedented opposition in the form of public comments. Two of the six Class Ones railroads in the area have publically stated they will not use the line. A third has it's own bypass in place already in the form of the old EJ&E railroad and they are constructing of their own new intermodal yard. Indiana has reformed it's eminent domain laws and Illinois has a proposal introduce to do the same, specifically due to the GLBT project. Numerous well respected organization has fiercely opposed the project, including the Illinois Farm Bureau. Every county government where this project is proposed has come out against it. There is no public support for this line and as a result a public necessity review is quick and simple to decide, there is no public necessity for this line, and an immediate denial of the project is requested.