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GLBT application
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I oppose this rail project.

First

There is no need, no transportation entity in this state nor the railways themselves have identified that this is needed. The 6 class one railways that would be the market for the GLBT have all said they would not use it. In fact, rail congestion around Chicago is being remedied by a group called CREATE and is already working on an alternative that is already having positive effects without seeing any need for the GLBT.

Secondly,

Mr Patton has also now filed for protection to hide the names of any investors he has for the railway. Why? What has he to hide? If this project is really a good thing why would investors not want to identify themselves with the project?
Also by refusing to list his investors we have no way to vet their ability to plan and run a railway.

Thirdly,

the route given for the GLBT also poses additional hazards (since crossings would be restricted), for those living on the west side of the route. The response time for fire,police, or emergency will be greatly extended as the railway would cut off many east west roads thus depriving direct routes to Rockford Hospitals and emergency services.

GLBT's inability to provide basic economic data on viability or even have a basic concept of the cost (8 billion or is it 2.8 billion?) should send red flags that this project is ill conceived and should not be approved by the STB.

Thank You,
Timothy W. Ryan
Rockford