

**Help us save our area and stop the Great Lakes Basin Railroad. Docket # FD 35952**

**To: Mr. David Navecky**

**Surface Transportation Board**

**395 E Street SW,**

**Washington, DC 20423-0001**

**Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Please give us more time to review the GLBRR. We have many important points of opposing to be considered. The people in the third proposed track area, west of Winnebago county Docket #FD 35952 area residents were not even notified of the cut of date of July 15<sup>th</sup>. We were just made aware of where the tracks would run last week in Oct.

Not only are the tracks just 70 feet from my house but it will be chopping our farm into pieces that we will not be able to farm. I cannot believe that the railroad didn't have geologist come out and inspect our land. The water table is very high in our area, that is why we have Nygrens wet lands. Raccoon creek runs through our farm. The area has two rivers running through it. When there is a spill it will affect our aquifer forever.

Our farm is home of the protected brown bats, too. Also in the area is the newly protected endangered Massasauga Rattlesnake. To hit a rock base here at our farm you have to go down at least 200 ft. How can a heavy fast moving train run on a track laid on ground that is like jelly?

Hunting is a big deal in our area. Although we personally are not hunters many folks are. Our deer population was hurt by CWD. They are just making a comeback and now with the tracks their habitant area will be decreased. The town of Rockton and its surrounding area have a lot of tourism places. Home to Williams Tree Farm and others tree farms, Edwards Apple Orchard West, the Copperfield Bed & Breakfast with its Pavilion and other small businesses. We are close to Rockton, approx. 4 to 5 miles west. This rail line can go either way, 5 miles east or west. Do the town of Rockton want all the diesel fumes from the train that will run up to 100 times a day? You may think you live far enough west but roads will be closed!! You will have to find a new way to work or to go to town. My cattle and many other farm critters will be affected. They will lose their peaceful pastures.

Please give us more time to look into the impact this will have our area. The region needs to be studied more before the GLBRR destroys our country side. Our lives will be disrupted and the damage will be done forever.

Please help save our farms, peace and our livelihoods.

Kathi Jurkowski of Klover Korners Farm, Rockton, IL

