



October 25, 2016

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW Room 1106
Washington DC 20423

RE: Docket No. FD 35952 – Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc. – Authority to Construct and Operate a Rail Line in Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin – Information Request #4

Dear Ms. Rutson:

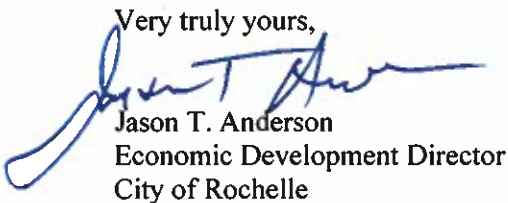
I am the Economic Development Director for the City of Rochelle, Illinois. In this capacity, I oversee the operations of the City of Rochelle Railroad (CIR).

As you know, Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc. (GLBT) has proposed, as part of its construction plans, a connection with the CIR. They have suggested several alternatives to do this but their most recent preference involves constructing a wye off the GLBT route at roughly the Ogle/Lee county line, building directly west to a connection with the CIR and then building south along the CIR rail line, which will include the construction of switching and staging yard. We understand you are reviewing this proposal and have requested additional information from GLBT to assess the revised plan.

GLBT has met with representatives of the City of Rochelle, including myself. They shared their plans with us and we, likewise, shared our plans, including an extensive plan to expand the track capacity of CIR, which may very well be redundant to some of the plans proposed by GLBT. We intend to continue communications with GLBT in an effort to reach a mutually satisfactory plan that meets the needs of CIR as well as GLBT. This may involve further reconsideration of the current proposals.

In view of the above, we await GLBT's submissions in response to your Request #4 regarding the proposed connection to the City of Rochelle Railroad (CIR). We will forward any comments as soon as we have a chance to more fully evaluate the GLBT plans and their responses to you.

Very truly yours,



Jason T. Anderson
Economic Development Director
City of Rochelle

cc: Ken Blodgett, OEA
Frank Patton, GLBT
Jim Wilson, GLBT
William Miller, GLBT
Doug DeBerg, GLBT
Janet Gilbert, Fletcher & Sippel
David Plyman, City of Rochelle
Richard Ohlinger, GREDCO



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

October 11, 2016

Jay Johnson
Venable LLP
575 Seventh Street NW
Washington, DC 20004

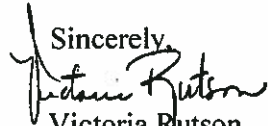
Re: Docket No. FD 35952, Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc. — Authority to Construct and Operate a Rail Line in Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin; Information Request #3

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Consistent with 40 C.F.R. § 1506.5(a), we request the information listed below to assist the Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis in preparing the Environmental Impact Statement in connection with the above-referenced proceeding.

1. Elaborate on your response to Information Request #1, Question #1, by providing and explaining the end-to-end travel time and corresponding rail line length above which the project would not be commercially feasible.
2. Elaborate on your response to Information Request #1, Question #6, by providing and explaining the dimensions of a reasonably foreseeable Railport that would accommodate the project purpose and be consistent with anticipated operations. Also explain the relevance of ready access to the Interstate Highway system to GLBT's purpose for the proposed project. Based on these characteristics (in addition to relatively flat and unobstructed, etc.), what locations in addition to the proposed location in Manteno would be feasible?
3. Provide GIS information for GLBT's new preferred route comparable to the information provided by GLBT for other routes in response to Information Request #1.
4. Provide further explanation of the relevance of (1) the Kingsbury Branch connection to South Shore Freight and (2) connection to the City of Rochelle Railroad (at approximately MP 163.5 of the new preferred route) as they relate to the purpose of the proposed project.
5. Identify whether there are any specific locations ("anchor points") along the preferred route that must be considered in the development of reasonable alternatives for the proposed rail line. If so, explain why the anchor points are necessary for the feasibility of the proposed project.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please feel free to contact me or Ken Blodgett of my staff at 202-245-0305 or by email at Kenneth.Blodgett@stb.gov, if you have any questions. I would appreciate two copies of your response, one sent to Ken Blodgett and one sent to Alan Summerville of ICF, our independent third-party consultant. We look forward to receiving this information at your earliest convenience, but no later than November 30, 2016.

Sincerely,

Victoria Rutson,
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

cc: Kathryn Floyd



City of Rochelle

P.O. Box 601
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