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Wanatch Scoping Mtg
Apr 13, 2016

Westville Water Department

908 Stanley Drive

Westville Indiana 46391

219-785-1880

Greetings:

April 11th, 2016

Recently we were advised that the proposed railroad is in the planning stages for the north section of the Town of Westville. I would like to publicly object to the proposed location and point out several key reasons in my objection.

- 1) The Town of Westville has just completed its wellhead protection plan stage II (W.P.P.). In that plan it shows the natural area ground water flows to the Town's existing two wells. The Town of Westville developed this well field in 1999 after it was determined that ground water traveling from the North at the old Cam-or site (currently a EPA superfund site) was tainted with a petroleum waste. Please review map provided. The move was made after the discovery, that the 908 Stanley Drive would provide quality drinking water. A new water storage tank and treatment plant were built with the ability to provide clean quality drinking water for many years with future expansion.
- 2) The water withdraw area mapped in December will show current aquifer and projected withdraw from the same aquifer with increased flow from the Two wells. Future plans have shown a third well, could be installed at the 908 Stanley Drive location. That new well will draw water from the North and East area around the property.
- 3) The projected railroad will be in the area of the Town of Westville W.P.P. and a conflict will be possible in the event of a major spill. Cost of a new well field area could run into the Millions of Dollars. Moving the railroad to the north by several hundred feet would affect the W.P.P. area of New Durham Estates water system as well.
- 4) A train passing through a property has a small chance of a spill or derail, however a transfer station or multiple sets of rails with switching systems has a greater chance of an accident or spill. As Laporte County seen in 2004 a train was derailed on U.S. 421 on a foggy day when a truck stopped at the railroad for a train, it was rear ended by a second truck. That crossing was closed for almost a month and luckily it was not hauling chemicals. It has not been reported, if the proposed crossing would be through U.S. 421, or overhead in the Westville crossing.
- 5) If the proposed crossing is cut through U.S. 421 in the proposed location, the northbound lane currently has two eight inch sewage force mains and an eight inch gravity sewer line installed. In the southbound lane there is currently an eight inch water main. All of the water and sewage lines would

have to be encased or relocated to protect from the heavy loads and vibration caused by an active railroad.

6) The Town of Westville provides safe drinking water and proper sewage treatment to all of the property along U.S. 421 from C.R. 500 South to the south edge of the Indiana Toll Road. This area has been developed for future growth for housing and education, not hazardous industrial shipping.

I thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration on your future plans to develop and railroad in the North section of Westville.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Anderson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel L. Anderson

Westville Utility Superintendent