

10-24-2016

Vicki Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E street, SW
Washington DC 20423

Re: Comment on FD 35952

Dear Vicki;

I am writing to you in opposition of Great Lakes Basin Railroad Project. I feel that the only action on this project is a No Build Alternative decision from the STB.

There are many environmental concerns that need to be addressed and studied to prove to some that this project is not a bright idea. For those of us that live here the negative environmental impact is obvious.

My county has three rivers in this alignment as well as numerous creeks, streams, springs, wetlands and other wetlands in the WRP. When does the Army Corp of Engineers become involved in this process or when is there some discussion on the wetlands that have been deemed "Wetlands" by our Federal Government?

Other negative impacts are the destruction of wildlife and their habitat including those acres set aside as conservation practices and woodlands. Without this current habitat the migration of certain species will be altered or be lost.

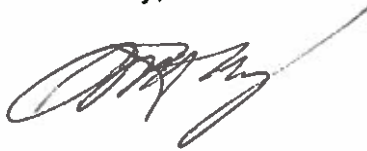
Farm drainage will also greatly be disrupted and the erosion associated with newly directed water movement will cause a new set of issues here and downstream. I do not see how it is possible for anyone to predict the damage construction will do on the hundreds of drainage tile lines in my township alone. I would estimate that 50% of these lines are unknown thru changing of landowners over time and also because they are working correctly. I have not heard from Great Lakes or STB on the hundreds of tile lines I have installed and their locations with this project.

I cannot understand why anyone would think this environmental destruction thru construction is beneficial other than Great Lakes or those financially associated with this LLC. Does the environmental study look at what a rail accident with hazardous material

does to our water systems?

On a final comment, my family has been on this farmstead for 155 years and because of this our road was named after the family. We have long ties to this land which we try and take care of to provide our family earnings. To have someone privately (with permission from our government) take my livelihood away from my family and I for their private financial gain seems un American!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Wishop', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jeff Wishop

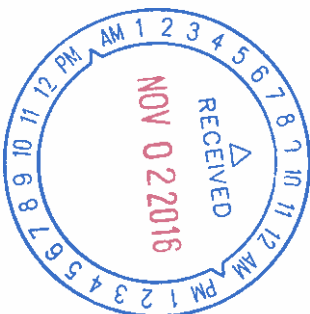
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