



JO ANN CARRETTO
LASALLE COUNTY CLERK

May 17, 2016

The Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E St SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

Attn: Dave Navecky

Dear Mr. Navecky

Enclosed please find a copy of Resolution #16-58 passed by the LaSalle County Board, Ottawa, Illinois, on May 10th, 2016 opposing the Great Lakes Basin Railroad Project (Federal Docket No. FD 35952).

I am forwarding this on to you at the request of the LaSalle County Board.

Respectfully,

JoAnn Carretto
LaSalle County Clerk

JMC/bc

LaSalle County Board

Jerry L. Hicks
Chairman



707 East Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350

Phone: 815-434-8242
FAX: 815-434-8250

RESOLUTION (#16-58)

REGARDING THE GREAT LAKES BASIN RAILROAD PROJECT Federal Docket No. FD 35952

WHEREAS, The Surface Transportation Board is considering a proposed railroad project submitted by Great Lakes Basin Railroad and,

WHEREAS, the proposed railroad project includes potential route corridors that would cut across prime farmland in LaSalle County and,

WHEREAS, farmland preservation is the focal point of the LaSalle County Comprehensive Plan which includes strategies and goals to protect nonrenewable farmland and natural resources and,

WHEREAS, the proposed railroad project would require condemnation of property for easements, including prime, nonrenewable farmland and,

WHEREAS, the project poses significant environmental concerns which could result from accidents involving the transportation of hazardous materials and,

WHEREAS, the LaSalle County Comprehensive Plan seeks a road and highway system that is safe, convenient and accessible and,

WHEREAS, the project will have a significant impact on the current system of state, county and township roads situated in LaSalle County and,

WHEREAS, the project will negatively impact response time for first responders and,

WHEREAS, the proposed railroad line could result in loss of property value, lost income and development potential of prime farmland, increased crop production time and costs, and unknown impact on the general economy and,

WHEREAS, clear, detailed information explaining the perceived needs for the railroad project, route selection process and criteria, and economic benefits to LaSalle County with supporting objective studies and cost benefit analysis for each have not been provided to potentially impacted parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that

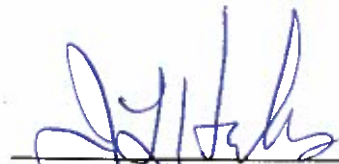
1. The LaSalle County Board opposes the proposed Great Lakes Basin Railroad Project.
2. The LaSalle County Clerk is authorized to transmit this resolution to the Surface Transportation Board, Office of Environmental Analysis, 395 E. St. SW, Washington D.C. 20423-0001 ATTN: Dave Navecky, Illinois' US Senators, LaSalle County Congressional Representative and Great Lakes Basin Railroad. (Docket No. FD 35952)

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LaSalle County Board hereby approves the resolution,

ADOPTED this 10TH day of MAY, 2016.

ATTEST:


LaSalle County Clerk


Jerry L. Hicks, Chairman
LaSalle County Board

PLEASE RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO:

JO ANN CARRETTO
LASALLE COUNTY CLERK
707 E ETNA RD
P O BOX 430
OTTAWA IL 61350-0430
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
395 E ST SW
WASHINGTON DC 20423-0001



204230001