



City of Columbus
Kristen Brown
Mayor



City of Franklin
Joe McGuinness
Mayor



City of Greenwood
Mark Myers
Mayor



City of Seymour
Craig Luedeman
Mayor

EI-20946

February 26, 2015

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-001

RE: Finance Docket No. 35523, CSX Transportation, Inc. – Joint Use – Louisville & Indiana Railroad Company, Inc.

Dear Ms. Rutson,

While we wait patiently for the final determination from STB regarding the above matter, we wanted to jointly thank you for the time you took to hear our concerns recently.

We also want to point out that we met with respective railroad companies individually, and they too heard our concerns. Upon closing of those individual meetings, it was made apparent that there was not much that would be done unless the OEA and STB directed them to do so.

While we have trust in your office having heard our concerns, and trust that they will be made apparent to STB for their consideration, the above causes us some concern. Given the gravity of this transaction, we would like to request a public hearing be held locally by OEA and/or STB. We are happy to assist with the arrangements and notifications.

In the meantime, we've noticed another case on the docket that bears substantial similarity to our plight. We would like to call your attention to Finance Docket No. 35087 regarding the Village of Barrington, Illinois and the Canadian National Railway Company. This case appears similar in that the Village of Barrington's concerns might not have been adequately vetted and they are now experiencing significant difficulties only a short time after STB's final determination and approval. Our concern is that our communities not end up in a similar situation with issues that could have been resolved prior to damage being done and public safety being compromised.

We thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


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CC:

Senator Dan Coats, United States Senate (via email)
Congressman Todd Young, United States House of Representatives
Congressman Luke Messer, United States House of Representatives
Ms. Cynthia T. Brown, Chief of the Section Administration, Office of Proceedings
Governor Mike Pence, State of Indiana (via email)
Lt. Governor Sue Ellsperman, State of Indiana (via email)
Mr. Lucas Mastin, Highway Director, Johnson County (via email)
Mr. Ron Hoffman, Council President, Edinburgh (via email)
Mr. John Drybread, Town Manager, Edinburgh (via email)
Ms. Anna Gremling, Executive Director, Indianapolis MPO (via email)
Mr. Laurence Brown, Director, Columbus Area MPO (via email)
Mr. Thomas Dunbar, INDOT (via email)