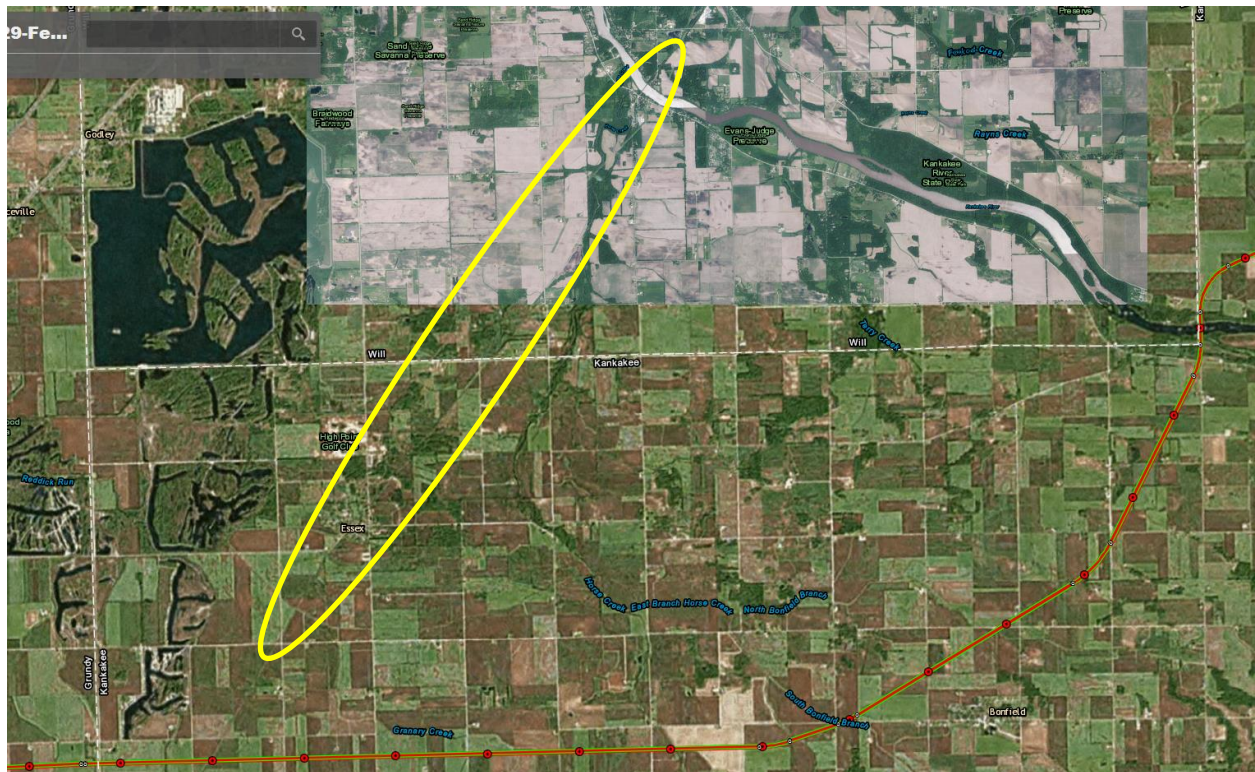


Dear STB,

I wish to propose the repurposing of exiting rail passages crossing the Kankakee River, rather than the exploitation of additional waters and lands of the state park. I do not know anything about the exiting rail road and rail crossing shown below, other than the visible fact that it exists. I appears that it is no longer in use, and just abandoned.

My concern is that each crossing takes away part of the scenery, adding to visual pollution, air and water pollution, and disrupting wildlife habitats. This example is real proof that railroads will forever leave a scar to the landscape long after they are abandoned. I simply wish to minimize these effects by urging the repurposing of existing rails and their river crossings.

Please see below image.



Shown in this image is the current proposal in Kankakee County. Enclosed within the yellow is an existing rail that crosses the Kankakee River near Custer Park, IL.

Sincerely,

Michael Riegel