

Rockton Township Resolution on the proposed Great Lakes Basin Railroad (GLBRR)

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will transverse Rockton Township residences, farms, businesses, watersheds, and other natural areas, permanently altering and damaging them;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will lower property values for those parcels crossed as well as all others in the area;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will increase travel times through the area by residents, school buses, and emergency responders among others;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will increase the risks of derailments and other catastrophic events in the area;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will increase insurance costs for area residents and businesses because of increased travel times for emergency responders and increased risks of accidents;

Whereas the proposed GLBRR will cause numerous costs on area residents and businesses (monetary, aesthetic, safety, environmental, etc.) without compensation; now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Rockton Township Board urges the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to adopt a no-action option for the proposed GLBRR:

1. because no amount of engineering can prevent the damages which will be done to the residences, farms, businesses, watersheds, and other natural areas;
2. because no compensation will mitigate the losses in property values to Rockton Township and all the other affected taxing districts;
3. because no design can maintain current travel times in the area;
4. because no engineering can prevent increased safety risks to area residents, farms, and businesses;
5. because no compensation will mitigate the increased insurance costs to area residents, farms, and businesses; and
6. because the area residents, farms, businesses, watersheds, and natural areas will bear all the costs. Any benefits will go to the GLBRR. This is not fair, especially considering this will be done by using eminent domain for the benefit of a private corporation.

PASSED this 12th day of October, 2016 by the Board of Trustees of Rockton Township.

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Supervisor Jencius	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Church	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Mohring	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Tiritilli	_____	_____	_____	<u>X</u>
Trustee Williams	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____

By: Thomas E Jencius
 TOM JENCIUS, SUPERVISOR
 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
 ROCKTON TOWNSHIP

ATTEST:

Judith Gurney
 JUDITH GURNEY,
 TOWNSHIP CLERK