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ATTN: Docket # FD-35952

Date 12-09-16

Ken Blodgett
Surface Transportation Board
Docket # FD 35952
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001
Mr. Blodgett,

After reviewing the available information about the proposed Great Lakes Basin (GLB) rail project, it is my opinion that the proposed GLB project has failed to sufficiently provide documentation that supports public convenience and necessity. For the following reasons I respectfully request that the STB cease any further action on this project.

I do not believe this project is needed. Increased funding should be provided to CREATE to address the issue of congestion in the Chicago area. I, personally, would be severely harmed by this project as the proposed rail line runs adjacent to my property, making my land worthless. In addition, I have 20 acres in the CRP (Conservation Reserve Program). This land is planted in tall grass prairie and is a wildlife habitat that would be negatively impacted. I am also concerned for the wetlands directly across the road and several nature conservancies in the immediate area.

The above provided information is what led me to the conclusion that the proposed GLB project is inconsistent with the public convenience and necessity. It was insufficiently vetted before starting the approval process. I respectfully request that the STB takes "no action" on this project.

Signature

Gloria Mathews

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