

June 12, 2016

Dear Mr. Navecky,

Our family would like to express our vehement opposition to the proposed Great Lakes Transportation project of constructing a new 278-mile rail line. It is unfathomable that the proposed line would take the best land in the world from its agricultural status! Everyone needs to eat! The farm that has been in our family for over 120 years is within a half of a mile from the proposed line. We are concerned about the acquisition of prime farmland for private gain. We question why the railroads themselves do not want this, but it is continuing to be pushed forward. We wonder why are the supposed investors in this project not identifying themselves?

Our family agrees with the solution offered to use pre-existing rails. The fact that GLBT refuses to consider this solution makes us wonder exactly what they are going to be hauling repeatedly at breakneck speeds in our quiet, country environment. What consequences would occur if a train derails? How would that event affect our health and safety immediately and long thereafter?

The roads would no longer exist as they do now. This would affect our livelihood as we must rent land from others in the area to make ends meet as farmers. Planting in the spring and harvesting in the fall would be a nightmare without our rural road infrastructure as it exists now! We are also extremely concerned about how this would affect response times in the event of a rail accident or our own need of first responders for our family.

Our cousin's family farm will essentially be cut in half. They just built a beautiful, new house. Their darling children who are just four and two years old will be way too close to these incessant speeding trains! Their lives could never be replaced should the unthinkable happen! PLEASE DO NOT LET THE GLBT MOVE FORWARD WITH THIS PROJECT!

Sincerely,

Tom, Katie, Tyler, and Travis Cunningham

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C

Tom & Katie
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