



Ryan G Jacobs

11610 N. La Salle Rd.
Newark, IL 60541

July 15, 2016

Dave Navecky
Surface Transportation Board
Docket No. FD 35952
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Navecky,

I am writing to oppose the proposed Great Lakes Basin Transportation Railroad line. The proposed line does not cross our property, but will be 50 feet away from it. It will also be within 300 feet of our home and 400 feet of a business that my family has operated on our farm for 41 years. We are located in the northwest corner of Grundy County, Illinois.

I have many concerns about the proposed rail line. First, would be safety of my family and others in our community. Having a railway that will be running this close to our home will increase the possibility of an accident. We will have to cross railroad tracks at least 2 times each way when traveling to the city where we do our shopping. If there was a train accident near our home, who would be held liable if there is an environmental problem that arises from the accident. Noise pollution will also be a major problem with our home being close to the proposed route.

Second, as a farmer my drainage will be affected by the proposed route. It will be crossing an open ditch/creek that my farm drains into. It will also be crossing drainage tile from our farm that drains through the neighboring farm.

Third, the proposed route will adversely affect our family business. It will affect how my customers and suppliers access our business. Since we will not be receiving any compensation for the route crossing our land, how will be compensated for the loss of business due to the proposed route.

Lastly, I understand that the proposed route can change after this comment period. If the route does change and goes across our property there would be more environmental impact to our property. Drainage tile and property access would be two of many concerns. How can I make comments on those items without knowing the route?

Thank you for your time in researching the impacts of this proposed rail line.

Sincerely,

Ryan Jacobs