

Hello. Thank you for coming and listening to our concerns. I am Shelley, representing the, 3rd generation farm of Bernard Wellnitz. Our farm is in section 7 & 18 of Bradford Township. The proposed railroad would take out approximately 1 mile of our farm land. Our farm was purchased as a 160 acre homestead property. This approximately 1 mile, would equate to approximately 24 acres of productive farm land. In 2010, in the area of the proposed railroad, a waterway and tiling was completed with cost sharing from the federal government with efforts to create a more productive field and prevent ~~less soil~~ loss and erosion. Disturbing these waterways and tiling would not only be unfair to us, but the tax payers of the United States. The tiling was cost shared to save that land to produce more grain to feed our country and all of that money and effort would go to waste and we would be right back where we started from if you tear it all apart.

Our property would also be cut in quarters as there is already an existing railroad that runs East/West and took approximately 6 acres of what started as 160 acre homestead property. The proposed rail road would run North/South and would **land lock** a portion of our farm. What do you think this will do to the value of this property for not only us, but any hope for future generations.

~~We are~~ ~~opposed~~
 Once the farmland is gone it can never be returned -
 is it truly ~~an investment~~ in the betterment of the
 community, ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ~~could~~ loss of productive farm ground,
 to make ~~quick~~ it ~~faster~~ a few hours quicker
 around Chicago. In our opinion absolutely not.

Thank you again