



Midway Sno-Busters

P.O. Box 253
Orangeville, IL 61060

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington DC 20423

December 27, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

In regards to Docket Number FD35952, we request a 'no action option' be taken towards GLB's application for a new rail line that would pass through Northern Illinois.

The Midway Sno-Busters represent 60 snowmobiling families within Winnebago and Stephenson counties. The club installs, maintains and insures the public use trail system to promote safe snowmobiling.

We oppose the proposed rail for the following impacts;

The proposed rail crosses our parent Tri-country snowmobile alliance trail system in at least 9 locations. This interference would cause trail closures as there would be no way to create safe rail crossings for snowmobiles.

Roadway and trail closures would impact the response time of emergency vehicles to accident scenes and to medical facilities.

In severe winter storm emergencies snowmobilers assist with stranded motorists and medical emergencies. The trail and roadway closures would negatively affect the ability of snowmobilers to assist in those times of need.

Snowmobiling has an economic impact of approximately \$81.6 million dollars in Illinois. This new rail line would have significant effects on the established snowmobile trail system and the local and state economies.

Thank you for the consideration in this matter

Respectfully,


Kevin Kerchner – President


Bryan Hutting – Vice President


Matt Reeter – Treasurer


Sarah Goeke – Secretary