

Boone Township
140 W Ogden Street
Capron, Il. 61012

June 10,2016

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

Dear Mr. Navecky:

Boone Township is writing as a government body in apposition to the Great Lakes Basin Railroad project. Boone Township in Boone County, Il. is a very small township and the proposed rail project will greatly affect out township. Some of our concerns are:

1. The county and township budgets are very tight and driving to maintain roads that are closed or altered will be a great economic burden. Our county and township also lack the equipment to prevent black ice on any railroad approaches. Who replaces the existing roads that will be damaged by construction equipment? Our roads are not built to withstand all the construction equipment. Who pays for maintenance of the crossing approaches? Who pays for safety features such as crossing signs and gates?
2. Boone Township has 4 roads that would be impacted. One of these is a very heavily traveled road to the North Boone School District Complex. We are very concerned about safety issues.
3. We also have concerns about train accidents. The Piscasaw Creek has been rated as a Class A waterway. If a train accident occurs the effects would reach as far as the Mississippi River. The Piscasaw Creek has a gravel bed rock that is permeable.
4. Another concern is that if the funds that the railroad has projected to complete the project are inadequate, who will bear the burden of the financial shortcoming? As this is a private endeavor no burden should placed on the tax payer.
5. Finally we agree with many concerned citizens who have voiced their opinions about:
 - A. Increased emergency response times due to roads being closed or altered.
 - B. The fact that many of the wooded and conservation areas in Boone County would be destroyed.

We ask that the STB take all of these concerns under full consideration before granting approval for the GLB Railway.

Sincerely

Don Meier, Boone Township Supervisor

Don Meier

Scott Rogers, Boone Township Road Commissioner

Scott Rogers

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