

EI-22281



Document FD 35952

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04/24/2016 12:23 PM

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I am writing in opposition to the GLBT Rail project as currently proposed. It specifically affects the farmland and woodland of my mother's farm, Barbara Merriam at 2808 N. Tarrant Rd., Milton, WI., my sister's farm, Carol Pregont at 2508 N. Tarrant Rd., Milton, WI, and Venable Farms, Inc. at 8525 E. County Rd. MM, Janesville, WI (my spouse's family) .These three farms will each be negatively impacted by the proposed project.

This area contains some of the best farmland anywhere for crop and livestock production. The proposed line would limit access, and in the case of my mother's farm, divide the farm in such a way that there would be no access to a portion unless the rail tracks are crossed; an extremely unsafe practice with up to 110 freight trains per day and two tracks to cross, if even permitted. Many of the very productive farms on the proposed route would be subjected to unwelcome loud noise, potential danger due to train accidents and rail spills, as well as the operational inefficiencies due to the rail line's proximity and environmental impact. In addition, the noise and ground vibration of the numerous trains on the rail would be detrimental to livestock and the diverse wildlife of Southern Wisconsin.

For the above reasons, I am strongly opposed to this project. I am also aware that the 30 hour delay has already been reduced by the Chicago Regional Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) by an average of 11 hours according to the Wall Street Journal and has plans for further improvements to reduce congestion. I encourage the Board to consider other alternatives to the GLBT proposal.

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