

The people most impacted by Great Basin Transportation LLC first became aware mid-march. Word is still just getting out. A month later we are pushed to make environmental statements. Some people are still in shock stage.

No Great Lake Basin Official has taken the time or effort to talk to us. To them our land is what's important, not us. Yet Great Lake basin will dictate how we are to live and farm. How can we make environmental statements when not given answers to basic questions? We lack important details. Yet we are to complete comments to Surface Transportation Board by June 16th 2016. It seems Great Lake Basin Transportation LLC is hiding behind STB.

Thank you Office of Economic Analysis for holding scoping meetings, but this is more than an environmental but also an emotional and financial issues to those directly impacted. I wish a staff member of STB was here to meet and answer questions, to get to know us.

From several articles and Trans Canada oil pipe line map I can say the primary purpose of railroad is to transport billions of barrels of Bakken oil through rural areas. The first question is exporting large amounts of Bakken Oil the best for the environment? Great Lake Basin is a Keystone pipeline. A Federal agency, Great Lake Commission deals with all form of oil transport, trucks, vessels, barges, trains, says "ALL MODES OF CRUDE OIL TRANSPORT POSE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE ENVIRINMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH, COMMUNITY SAFETY."

Under trains they list 5 factors 1. Crude oil is volatile with a low flash point. 2. DOT Class III tanker is prone to structure failure and rupture upon impact. 3. Unmonitored crossings lead to auto, truck, accidents that cause deaths, injuries, oil spills, explosions. 4. Unit trains assembly is dangerous. 5. Environmental biggest threat is fire and explosion.

So explosive these trains are named "BOMB OIL TRAINS". It is not a matter of "if but sad to say "when and where first." Maintain tracks have derailments: Mendota, Earlville, Galena, Twiiskwa, Toluca-all local in past few years. How is a track that has trains every 15 minutes going to keep rails safe?

The real pain is Great Lake Basin Transportation LLC officials value urban and Chicago folk lives over rural people. It is okay for OIL BOMB TRAINS to pass through rural areas, but not urban. Our lives, our farm land is not as important. Does STB feel the same?

Three possible decisions of STB, a total yes, a yes with mitigations. We know that mitigation means, the farmer gives, the R/R gets it way. We been down that track before. The only answers for the environment a Complete NO, alternate routes are not any safer. Why create this environmental problem in the first place?

Everyone, not only those in Great Lake Basin path, must become concern of this pending environment hazardous these trains will create. This is especially true of our elected officials who duty it is protect and represent us.

Yours truly



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Thank you

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