

EI-25138



GLB railroad Docket No. FD 35952

cowpainter

to:

david.navecky

07/18/2016 08:08 AM

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From: "cowpainter" <cowpainter@t6b.com>

To: <david.navecky@stb.dot.gov>

Dear Mr Navecky,

Tonight I write to you to beg you to seriously decline the GLB railroad the opportunity to forever change our rural communities and destroy our livelihoods. I live on Mulford Road in lynnville township of Ogle County, Illinois. The track is planned to be built across the road from my farm and this will not only affect my property but also my business. I raise breeding and show cattle, very good cattle and I am concerned, after consultation with my embryologist, that this could have an extreme negative affect on the fertility of my breeding stock. The vibrations and noise from constant train traffic can adversely affect the normal patterns of behavior for my cattle. The area in which the route is planned to go through, is probably the worst environmental path that could be selected. It is a very low area that is filled with many natural springs. In fact the train will cross a creek named Spring Creek which derives its name from all of the springs which drain into it. It is also an area which has been extensively tiled and the flow of water will be adversely affected. I am greatly concerned how this will affect my property.

Since this venture has begun, I cannot believe that I am living in the United States of America and that something like this can happen to its citizens where their community will forever be changed and yes destroyed. As an illustrator for the beef industry, I travel across the US and meet many people. I have been amazed that in the last few months, how many people I have met that are going to be affected by this. I've also been shocked at the blatant arrogance Mr. Patton has been exhibiting. Last week I was in Grand Island, Nebraska where I met someone who said that this was going through his brothers farm and his brother talked to a contractor that said this is a done deal and his company had already been hired to do work for GLB in all of the counties affected. It makes one wonder if this is a political deal and we are just patsies going through motions. Patton has let the cat out of the bag (he loves to be interviewed by the media) that this train will be used to haul oil. The environmental hazards to this will be astronomical. Not only will a derailment affect our water tables, but imagine if in the fall a derailment could happen with corn waiting to be harvested. This could result in a fire covering thousands of acres comparable to wildfires out west. Couple that with the fact that our EMT services would be hindered because of all of the roads shut.

Mr Navecky, this is not a good idea. Why not use rails already in place or better yet, lets be responsible and admit that this is just a bad idea. I don't envy you this job but I pray that you make your decision with very careful consideration. Because whether you want to agree or not should a serious accident happen your office will have contributed to it. Please don't destroy our homes, our communities, our lifestyles, and our futures. We have invested our whole lives in this. It's all we have . Thank you.

Respectfully.

Cindy Brown

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