

Dave Navecky
STB Docket No. FD35952
359 E. Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Navecky,

This letter is written to you concerning my opposition to the building of the private enterprise Great Lakes Basin Railroad.

My family owns prime farmland about a mile east of the town of Steward in northern Illinois. The land lies just east of U.S. Highway 39 (251). This railroad would cause indescribable damage to our farming operation, as it cuts through the farm in a curving fashion and about 200' from our tenant house and large Morton farm equipment storage building. I doubt if most of the STB people realize how difficult and expensive it is to farm curving fields and the small pieces of fields formed by the curves in which we hardly have room to turn our planters and combines around to farm such a piece.

We are not considered large acre farmers but we do farm about 2000 acres and are blessed to have flat and rectangular-shaped fields of prime soil which should not be ruined by an unnecessary privately-owned railroad. My father's people came over from Norway in 1856 and our whole family has worked hard to pay for this wonderful soil and we are proud to be stewards of part of God's breadbasket of the world!

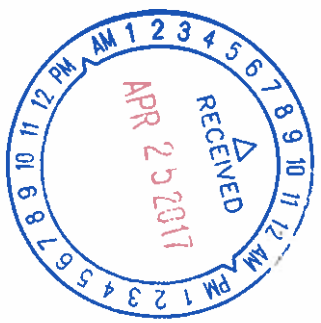
Please do NOT give permission for this railroad to be built!! We will be forever grateful if you turn them down.

Thank you.



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