

5306 Spring Meadow Lane
Sylvania, Ohio 43560
July 7, 2016

Mr. Dave Navecky
Docket# FD35952
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Navecky

My wife and I own a 74 acre farm on W400S in LaPorte County. Our farm is north of the southern leg of the proposed Great Lakes Basin Transportation rail line around Chicago. The southern boundary of our farm is approximately one half mile from the proposed southern leg of the railroad. I am writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed railroad based on several major factors. First the proposed rail line will destroy the quality of life on our property. One of the principle attractions of the farm is the peace and quiet associated with life in the country. The blaring of train whistles, the roar of engines and the rumbling of rail cars will destroy the peace and solitude of our farm. Secondly we do significant business with the elevator in Union Mills which is south of the proposed rail line. We are strongly opposed to the increased dangers and delays of taking agricultural wagons and vehicles across additional railroad tracks. We are also concerned with the quality of life for all our friends and neighbors near both the northern and southern legs in LaPorte county and all along the proposed route.

The purported reason for the proposed railroad is to save time due to congestion in Chicago. However it is my understanding that there are other efforts underway to reduce the congestion and reduce the time needed to pass through Chicago without building new bypass railroads. Therefore it would seem that a major reason for the proposed railroad is to make a profit for Mr. Frank Patton and other backers. It is not right to destroy the quality of life for thousands of people along the proposed route, further destroy the environment and create dangerous situations so a few can make a profit.

My wife and I are strongly opposed to the new railroad line and we hope Washington will serve the majority of citizens and not special interests.

Sincerely,



Phillip R. White, Ph.D.

Dr. & Mrs. Phillip R. White
5306 Spring Meadow Lane
Sylvania, Ohio 43560

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