

June 9, 2016

Subject: Docket Number 35952

Attention: Mr. Dave Navecky
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express some of my concerns re: The Great Lakes Basin Transportation's proposed new rail line that will run from Indiana through Rock County, Wisconsin (where I reside).

- What will happen to our community of Clinton, Wisconsin if many of our roads are blocked off for passage of the new railway? What about response time by our emergency responders in the event of emergencies on the other side of this proposed railway with our roads blocked off in so many instances?
- What about all the kinds of pollution, including noise and environmental contamination; what about the loss of natural habitat and the loss of Wisconsin farmland?
- If so many trains will be using this railway on a daily basis (they don't seem to know how many) and at such high speeds, what about railway/train accidents? I found that it has been noted that in the last decade, 26 oil train accidents in the U.S. and Canada (including the latest one in Mosier, Oregon this month) have involved major fires and/or the derailment of the trains (which this one did in both instances). With so many daily trains running on this railway and at the high speeds they claim, it is just about guaranteed that accidents will be waiting to happen. (Mosier, Oregon's waste water treatment plant and its sewer system were both damaged in this accident and are currently unusable.)
- Lastly, we the public are constantly urged to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Why, if Chicago is already working through their CREATE program in a collaborative partnership with the U.S. DOT, the state of Illinois, the City of

Chicago, Metra, Amtrak and the nation's freight railroads to alleviate these rail congestion problems, does Mr. Frank Patton consider it necessary to build another railway (at the expense of private citizens and our environment) rather than work with the CREATE program. It seems to me that he is misusing the federal law of eminent domain to further his own gain. This would set a dangerous precedent across the country.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.



Sharon L. Vivian

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