

Stephen T Shade
6320 Favor Rd
Rockton IL 61072

Nov 11, 2016

Victoria Ruston
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: Docket # FD 35952 Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc.

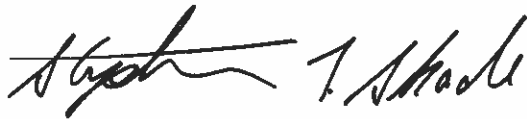
Dear Director Ruston:

We oppose the Great Lakes Basin railroad project for environmental reasons.

As the proposed route of the railroad has now been shifted westward, we are hopeful that another public hearing might be scheduled where Winnebago County residents may voice their opinion and reservations on the proposed project.

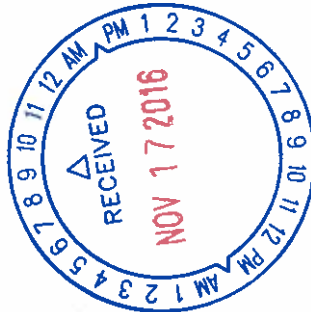
The threatened freshwater mollusk, *Elliptio dilatata*, native to the Pecatonica and Rock Rivers would suffer further decline. The numbers of the mollusk plummeted in the Pecatonica River following the construction of the Meridian Rd bridge (42.4375N 89.1746W). The proposed route would result in another bridge crossing the Pecatonica River within a mile of the aforementioned bridge. The fear is another construction project would result in the demise of the bivalve species in this area. The proposal would also require crossing the Rock River in Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen T. Shade", written in a cursive style.

Stephen T Shade

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