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Agriculture & Conservation

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Appropriations: Public Safety

Labor & Commerce Committee

Brian W. StewartState Representative • 89th District

October 4, 2016

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

Re: Docket No. FD 35952 Great Lakes Basin Transportation Inc.

Dear Director Ruston:

Recently the Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc. (GLBT) filed their response to the Surface Transportation's (STB) July 1, 2016 Information Request No. 1. The GLBT submitted a new Preferred Route eliminating Boone County in Illinois and now impacting landowners in Winnebago and Ogle Counties in my District as well as other counties.

My concern is that the landowners who are now impacted by the new route have had no opportunity to provide public comment as a part of the Scoping Process. The purpose of the Scoping Process under NEPA is to allow informed public input on the GLBT's project. This new Preferred Route was submitted as a result of input from the public on the original Preferred Route.

I request you allow a minimum 60-day public comment period on the GLBT's Response to information Request No. 1 to ensure the newly impacted landowners and opportunity to provide their input.

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Brian Stewart

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