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JOE SOSNOWSKI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
69TH DISTRICT

October 3, 2016

Victoria Ruston
Director, Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20432-0001

Re: Docket No. FD35952 Great Lakes Basin Transportation, Inc.

Dear Director Ruston,

I respectfully request that the Surface Transportation Board (STB) re-open public comment to allow for a minimum of a 60 day period to provide those who are now impacted by the Great Lakes Basin's (GLBT's) new Preferred Route. As the STB is well aware during the initial public commenting portion which closed on, July 1, 2016, sufficient and extensively factual information was provided for your agency's consideration by impacted parties.

A hearing was held in Boone County, Illinois on Wednesday, March 23, 2016. More than 200 constituents of my district attended the meeting. During public comment, my constituency provided enlightening and comprehensive details regarding the proposed GLBT rail line project through Boone County.

The STB provides for public comment because nothing is more valuable than securing information and hearing from individuals in local communities whose social, environmental, and economic positions are pivotally impacted by construction projects of this magnitude. GLBT's new Preferred Route will affect a constituency of my district that was not adequately informed or provided public comment opportunities. In respect of your agency's good work and cooperation with communities I request in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that procedural fairness is bestowed upon the affected parties, especially those in Winnebago County, Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe S" followed by a horizontal line.

Joe Sosnowski
State Representative
69th District