

**Illinois Northern  
Regional  
Groundwater  
Protection Planning  
Committee**

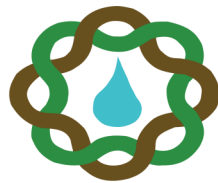
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**Website:** [www.epa.state.il.us/  
water/groundwater/images/  
northern.html](http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/groundwater/images/northern.html)

**Committee Members**

- \* Ruth Roth
- \* Dan Kane
- \* Cliff Runyard
- \* Bill Hatfield
- \* Nadine Miller
- \* Chuck Martin
- \* Dan Guif
- \* Don Krizan
- \* Kristy Morrison
- \* James Mulcahy
- \* Laurie Moyer
- \* Heather Renko
- \* Collin Belle
- \* Gordon Geddes
- \* Thomas Chinske
- \* Brent Anderson
- \* Clay Simonson
- \* Ryan Kerch
- \* Dennis Anthony
- \* Edward Weskerna
- \* Justin Krohn
- \* Anthony Dulka
- \* Jason Snudden



**Northern Regional  
Groundwater  
Protection Planning  
Committee**

Mr. Dave Navecky  
Office of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
Docket No. FD 35952  
395 E Street SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Docket No. FD 35952 - Comments concerning the scope and content of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) relative to the Great Lakes Basin Transportation Corporation's proposed new railroad.

Dear Mr. Dave Navecky:

The Northern Regional Groundwater Protection Planning Committee is submitting this letter to express concerns for groundwater resources in Boone and Winnebago Counties. The proposed railroad route traverses a landscape with regions that are geologically sensitive relative to potential contaminants. Our organization consists of groundwater professionals, public water suppliers, natural resource agency staff, and others with expertise in groundwater issues.

It is our request that the Surface Transportation Board require a comprehensive assessment in their Environmental Impact Statement that specifically reviews the potential risks to contamination of surface and groundwater systems in the Boone and Winnebago Counties as well as all of the areas affected by the development of the proposed railroad, including areas planned for soil borrow excavations, wetlands, natural rivers & streams, aquatic habitats, agricultural drainage systems and other features likely to be impacted.

Please require a rigorous study of the environmental conditions in all areas that this proposed project will impact. Other local organizations and agencies have submitted or will submit comments and concerns as well as supporting documentation relative to these concerns. This letter incorporates those additional comments and concerns, as well as the supporting documents, by reference. Specifically, submittals made by:

- \* The Boone County Conservation District
- \* The Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District
- \* The Winnebago Boone Farm Bureau
- \* The Forest Preserve District of Winnebago County
- \* The Boone County Board
- \* The City of Belvidere
- \* The Boone County Board of Public Health

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding the content of this letter and other documents incorporated by reference.

Sincerely,

Ruth Roth, Chairperson NRGPPC  
C/O Boone County Health Department  
1203 Logan Avenue  
Belvidere, Illinois 61008