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GLBT responds to federal agency request

Posted: Tuesday, Nov 29th, 2016

BY: staff

MENDOTA - Great Lakes Basin Transportation Inc. (GLBT) this month provided additional information as requested by the Surface Transportation Board. The Nov. 10 response from GLBT includes the average number of trains per day forecasted for each segment, the anticipated average speed of the trains and the anticipated average train length for the proposed toll railroad.

The proposed rail route runs through Illinois, including LaSalle County, as well as Indiana and Wisconsin. GLBT submitted train speeds based on maximum speeds allowed by freight type: intermodal 70 mph, coal and grain 45-55 mph, oil 45 mph, and general car loads 55 mph.

The number of trains per day, their lengths and speeds vary. The numbers are broken down by sections based on railroad interchange points. At the northern end of the route, GLBT estimates one or two trains per day in the first year of operation on the Rock County, Wis. segment. By year three, they estimate three to eight trains per day on that segment. At the Rochelle area section mile marker 164, estimates range from four to eight rains per day the first year to 17 to 34 by the third year.

At Earlville mile marker 140, an approximate midpoint, the first year estimates are 11-20 trains per day increasing to 56-86 the third year. Manteno mile marker 63 is the site of the proposed 1,500-acre rail port. It is estimated the Manteno to Lowell Indiana stretches would see 21-35 trains daily the first year increasing to 56-85 per day the third year.

GLB noted that the information provided regarding the number of trains per day forecasted is based on traffic projections based on Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) traffic maps.

For additional information, click on the Documents and Related Links tab at www.greatlakesbasinraileis.com and look under Information Requests for the complete Nov. 10, 2016 GLBT response. Other information is available at www.BlockGLBrailroad.com (includes links to county Facebook pages) and <http://www.winnebagoboonefarmbureau.org/great-lakes-basin-rail.html>.

For the complete article see the 11-30-2016 issue.

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