



December 22, 2016

Sarah E. Feinberg
Administrator
Federal Railroad Administration
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington D.C. 20590

RE: Call for a full Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the UPRR Siding Extension at A-20 Project, part of the Chicago-Milwaukee Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor proposal

Dear Administrator Feinberg:

We write to share our significant concerns regarding the potential harm threatened by one aspect of proposed improvements to the Chicago-Milwaukee Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor – the UPRR Siding Extension at A-20 Project. In light of objections raised by affected municipalities and thousands of worried residents, we call on the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to order a full Environmental Impact Study (EIS) to evaluate the negative impacts of the A-20 project and determine whether alternative holding track plans warrant additional consideration.

The UPRR Siding Extension at A-20 project calls for the construction of a holding track for freight trains of up to 10,000 feet in length in and near Glenview and Northbrook, Illinois. Following the release of a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) that did not account for concerns of those impacted by a potential holding track, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Glenview and the Village Board of the Village of Northbrook both unanimously voted to reject this assessment and called for additional examination of the harms posed by such a project.

We join that call for additional examination in the form of a full Environmental Impact Study. The proposed holding track would impact these communities in a variety of ways, as idling trains in and near residential communities pose safety, noise, and environmental risk to our constituents. The draft EA contained very limited data regarding these concerns, and we do not

believe that data is sufficient for use as a decision-making document. We need more information, and an Environmental Impact Study would ensure careful study of these and other potential risks to ensure that they are properly accounted for when the FRA makes a final decision on the A-20 project.

Please consider our request, and keep our offices informed of developments pertaining to the A-20 project and the Chicago-Milwaukee Intercity Passenger Rail Corridor going forward. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Andrew Goczkowski, the Grants Coordinator & Constituent Advocate on Congresswoman Schakowsky's staff, at Andrew.Goczkowski@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



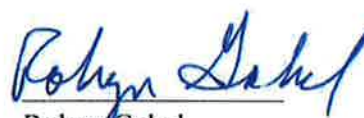
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Laura Fine
Illinois State Representative



Daniel Biss
Illinois State Senator



Robyn Gabel
Illinois State Representative