

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

NOTICE

STB Docket No. FD 35952

GREAT LAKES BASIN TRANSPORTATION, INC—AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT AND
OPERATE A RAIL LINE IN INDIANA, ILLINOIS, AND WISCONSIN

Decided: April 6, 2016

**Notice of Extension of Comment Period for the Draft Scope of Study and Notification of
Two Additional Scoping Meetings**

The Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), a Draft Scope of Study, and a notice of scoping meetings in the above-captioned proceeding on March 18, 2016, and published it in the Federal Register on the same day. In the NOI, OEA invited public comments on the Draft Scope of Study, potential alternative routes for the proposed rail line, and environmental issues and concerns by May 16, 2016. In response to a number of comments and the extensive scope of the proposed construction, OEA is issuing today's Notice to advise the public and all interested parties that the comment period will be extended until June 15, 2016, and that OEA has added two additional scoping meetings; one each in Belvidere, Illinois, and Valparaiso, Indiana.

The public scoping meetings will be held at the following locations on the dates listed:

- April 11, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; Manteno Sportsmen's Club Banquet Hall, 851 North Main Street, Manteno, Illinois;
- April 12, 2016; 10:00 AM -12:30 PM; Aberdeen Manor Ballroom, 216 Ballantrae Street, Valparaiso, Indiana;
- April 12, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Large Hall, 17401 Morse Street, Lowell, Indiana (*Please note new meeting venue, previously to be held in Lowell Town Hall*);
- April 13, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; American Legion Banquet Hall, 203 South Washington Street, Wanatah, Indiana;
- April 14, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; Civic Auditorium Banquet Room, 1001 Ridge Street, La Porte, Indiana;
- April 18, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; Craig High School Cafeteria, 401 South Randall Street, Janesville, Wisconsin;
- April 19, 2016; 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM; Community Building Complex of Boone County Auditorium, 111 West First Street, Belvidere, Illinois;

- April 19, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; Cherry Valley Fire Station #2 Hall, 4919 Blackhawk Road, Rockford, Illinois;
- April 20, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; Rochelle Township High School Auditorium, 1401 Flagg Road, Rochelle, Illinois; and
- April 21, 2016; 5:30-8:00 PM; Seneca High School Auditorium, 307 East Scott Street, Seneca, Illinois.

OEA will issue a Final Scope of Study for the EIS after the close of the scoping comment period. Any comments previously submitted on the NOI and Draft Scope of Study need not be resubmitted.

Scoping comments may be submitted electronically on the Board's website, www.stb.dot.gov, by clicking on the "E-FILING" link on the home page and then selecting "Environmental Comments." Please refer to **Docket No. FD 35952** in all correspondence, including e-filings, addressed to the Board. Scoping comments are now due by June 15, 2016.

Project specific information may be found on the Board's website at www.stb.dot.gov under "Environmental Matters", then click on the "Key Cases" button in the drop down menu and then select "Great Lakes Basin." For additional information about the Board's environmental review process and this EIS, mapping and other resources, you may also visit the Board-sponsored project website at www.GreatLakesBasinRailEIS.com.

By the Board, Victoria Rutson, Director, Office of Environmental Analysis.