

Rodney Kreunen, Commissioner of Railroads
Office of the Commissioner of Railroads
610 North Whitney Way, Suite 110
Madison, WI 53708

Re: Docket No. 9164-RX-682

Dear Mr. Kreunen:

It has come to my attention that the Wisconsin Central Ltd. railroad has petitioned your office to close the rail crossing in the Town of Stockton, Portage County at Old Highway 18 Road and Burbank Road. I want to make you aware that Old Highway 18 Road and its crossing of the tracks is a crucial bicycling artery between Stevens Point and communities and neighborhoods east of Stevens Point. I myself commute to work in Stevens Point using this route and on my commute each way, always see other cyclists using this route.

Additionally, recreational cyclists very often use this route to "get out of town" to do rides in the areas east of Stevens Point where varying terrain and mixed agricultural/woodlands make for very attractive cycling. Closing this road off completely will force these slow moving bicycles onto busier and more dangerous highway of US 10, County R, and County HH.

At this time, and certainly in the near future, as expansion grows east from Stevens Point, businesses in Custer and around County J and US 10 will want to have this corridor open to vehicle traffic, providing customers a safe and easily access to their businesses.

I am also aware that the Town of Stockton and the Heartland Bike Club are working together to find a feasible solution to improve the crossing to make it safer for all vehicle traffic.

I would urge you to consider all these important points as you begin your evaluation of this railroad crossing.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[Your Phone]
[Your Email Address]