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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4306

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Chairman Daniel R. Elliott III
395 E Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Chairman Elliott:

I am writing to file public comment in opposition to the proposed Texas Central Railway project, which would connect Dallas and Houston via high-speed rail. The proposed path of the rail would dissect Ellis and Navarro counties, both in the Texas 6th Congressional District.

While I am generically supportive of privately funded high-speed rail projects, I do not support this project for two reasons.

- 1) This project is not economically feasible or necessary in this particular corridor. Inexpensive commercial air travel is available from two major airports in both cities. Additionally, Interstate 45, which was recently expanded, services the corridor with few expected delays.
- 2) This project could affect the local environment and community access points. Many county and state roads will be closed off from other points within cities and communities. The few jobs created in construction could not, in my opinion, justify the lasting negative impact on central Texas.

I will not vote on the House Floor for the use of any federal funding, federally backed loans, or grants for this project. No exemptions should be given for the proposal by Texas Central Railway, and all normal procedures should be followed. I encourage you to continue a review of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Barton".

Joe Barton
Member of Congress

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