

August 25, 2008

Senator Barack Obama
230 South Dearborn Street
Suite 3900
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Senator Obama:

I want to thank you in advance for taking the time to read this letter and look into the impact that the CN purchase of the EJ & E Railroad will have not only on my community, but all of the surrounding area.

I live in the southwest corner of Mokena off 116th/Owens Road. Our railroad crossing is a rural crossing without gates. It is already treacherous with the five or so trains that pass through each day, as we have adults and children using the paths down 116th to Old Plank Trail. Our Intermediate school is just a block from the tracks. It is one of the main thoroughfares from Route 30 south.

The builders and community planners allowed homes to be built within yards of the railroad property. Homeowners are already experiencing cracked foundations and lower resale values because of the trains that pass through each day. When we purchased in 2006, to our knowledge this sale was not in the works. We already had concerns about the trains and track usage.

I am requesting that the residents of all impacted communities be heard. *I am asking you to please vote to pass the legislation (H.R. 6707) so that we may all be heard.*

Sincerely,

Margaret H. Gregory
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Mokena, IL 60448

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