

11428

TO: Surface Transportation Board

SUBJECT: Canadian National Acquisition of EJ & E Railway Freight Line

FROM: Lorraine S. Westcott
21024 N. Crestview Drive
Barrington, Illinois 60010-2924

DATE: August 27, 2008

If Canadian National Railroad is allowed to purchase the EJ&E Railroad, I have serious concerns for the future of the Barrington, Illinois area. In reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, I can see little regard for the negative impacts that such a sale would have on this and all other communities along the EJ&E route. As a senior citizen, it frightens me no end that access to my home by Barrington emergency services would be effectively blocked during passage of long freight trains. I see no indication that Canadian National would cover the expense of moving or establishing another emergency response facility for the half of Barrington that would be cut off by increased freight traffic through town.

The Surface Transportation Board must reconsider such impacts realistically. The increased traffic congestion, delay in emergency response and huge mitigation costs incurred by local, state and federal agencies must be taken into account seriously and accurately.

Lorraine S. Westcott