

080207 Flens

Ralph J. Flens, 1317 Charlevoix Way, Schererville Indiana 46375. The following are my comments: Have we had the safety concerns in all involved communities that are near the railroad have. Environmental concerns/affects on communities are greater today than in the past. Also, if the purchase is not approved, how many additional trains per day will the Canadian National be allowed to run? They are already running on EJ&E tracks.

Comment 2: (undesirable) subdivision, Schererville Indiana is most affected by the proposed purchase and increase in train traffic. Assuming the purchase will be approved, then I think the following should happen or must happen, the railroad crossing at 213th St must be made a quiet crossing, the crossing must be maintained so as to remain smooth and safe, not like some crossings you see. The equipment must be maintained, wheels and tracks, to minimize noise and vibration. Sound barriers must be installed by those along major interstates near residential areas to minimize the noise. Some type of vibration control must be installed in the ground to minimize the limited potential damage to homes, foundations, walls, floors, etc. and the wetlands that are adjacent to the railroad tracks; protection of American homeowner's investments as opposed to foreign owned company's profits must be considered. What about monopoly? How many American railroads have already been purchased by the CNN? I know of two. The Illinois Central and Grand Trunk. Are they going to own all of the railroads around the state's of this area? I don't think that is right. Thank you very much.

Surface Transportation Board

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