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Other Submissions

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Please fill out the following information to help us complete your filing:

Docket #: -35087 - -

Subject: * CN Railway purchase of EJ&E Railroad
First Name: * Steve
Middle Name:
Last Name: * Whitfield
Address: * 2214 Beaumont Court

City: * Aurora
State: * IL
Zip Code: * 60502-
Email Address: * steven.whitfield@wellpoint.com
Group/Affiliation:
Message: Please see the attached document regarding STB Finance Docket No. 35087.

Thanks!
Steve

September 19, 2008

Steve Whitfield
2214 Beaumont Court
Aurora, IL 60502

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Subject: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear STB,

It pains me to take time out of my busy schedule (as well as yours) to write you regarding the proposed acquisition of EJ&E Railroad by Canadian National (CN) Railway. I'm sure you are well aware of the numerous inconveniences this potential acquisition places on our prestigious community in the Chicago suburbs.

First, the proposed acquisition impacts me directly since my daily commute to the Route 59 Train Station in Aurora via Liberty Street takes me directly over the railroad tracks in question. Today, the tracks are very congested and the trains frequently block the railroad crossings far more than their 5 minutes allowed by the law. As a result of the congestion, daily commuters (like myself) are forced to sit at the railroad crossing and miss their scheduled trains. The end result is a LONGER commute to work as well as suffering the consequences of being LATE to work. I'm positive you would not enjoy being "caught" by the train on a daily basis and being LATE to work or even worse getting home LATE after a long day in the office.

Second, this is just my personal story; however, adding additional train traffic on a daily basis as proposed by CN Railway would be DISASTROUS for the entire community for many reasons listed below.

- 1) More commuting delays for the THOUSANDS that drive to the Route 59 Train Station in Aurora.
- 2) More potential for Train accidents as well as Pedestrian accidents.
- 3) Delays for Fire and Emergency Response vehicles that need to cross the tracks in emergency situations.
- 4) 18 Forest preserves (YES, 18!!) will be impacted (and several endangered species) due to increased train traffic by CN Railway.
- 5) NOISE - we are consistently fighting the current train noise levels; more noise from more trains is the very LAST thing we need!!

Please take my comments into consideration to prevent increased rail traffic. In closing; please STOP the CN Railway acquisition "dead in its own tracks".

Regards,

Steve Whitfield