

January 26, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423
Attn: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Environmental Filing
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

Log and Distribution

Date Rcvd: _____

HDR File No. _____

Scanned (Initial): _____

STAECT#: _____

Cc: Original - Job File

To Whom It May Concern:

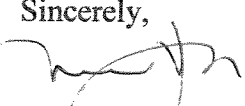
This letter is regarding Docket No. ~~1330~~ 35087, Section on Environmental Analysis. I am extremely concerned about the proposal to utilize the railroad tracks passing through the southern boundary of the Prestwick subdivision of Frankfort, Illinois, for the passage of 28 trains every 24 hours.

Aside from the environmental impact to the neighborhood, such increased usage would wreak havoc on the traffic patterns in Frankfort and neighboring communities. Unlike Chicago, many roads in this area end in cul de sacs or other dead-end configurations. Also, few viaducts exist in this area to allow for passage under the tracks. This would impact emergency response vehicles (i.e. ambulance, fire and police calls), school buses (we have schools along the railroad route), and significantly disrupt the flow of traffic and entry into neighborhoods. How this can occur without respect for the residents and property owners is beyond alarming.

The result of 28 or more trains per day passing through the EJ&E railroad would be catastrophic. The NOX and particulate load, the increase noise from train whistles and engine noise, and the smell from the diesel would increase by significant magnitude. The overall impact would greatly effect the environment and quality of life in this area.

It is our strong urgent request that the plan for this railroad to be altered, so that the tracks are moved to a less populated area to the south. If this cannot be accomplished, I would encourage those in charge to address these serious concerns by imposing the maximum train traffic rules, whistle blowing standards, and maximum penalties to the railroad when traffic flow is impeded beyond measurable tolerances. These requests are in addition to any recommendations that result from the planned environmental impact study.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Wessman
872 St. Andrews Way
Frankfort, IL 60423