

02222.021108.KER.PCTZ.60010.O.N.

February 11, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Attn: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Environmental Filing
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Board Members:

My husband and I have lived in Barrington, Illinois for 32 years. For several reasons we are very concerned with the Canadian National acquisition of the E J & E railroad.

Our number one concern is for the safety of all of our community. The E J & E tracks cross over every main street in our small town and already create a nearly intolerable situation with traffic delays. Any increase of train traffic, much less longer trains, would result in total gridlock of our roads and will leave all of our emergency services at a standstill and unable to help anyone in a medical emergency, fire or other disaster.

Although my husband is retired I still work at our local high school. Again there is a great safety concern for all of our school children who ride the buses to and from school. Not only would the increased train traffic impair their transportation time, we are greatly concerned for the safety of these students on the buses as well as our teens who drive to school as they cross the railroad tracks with any increase in train volume. As important, we have a large number of students who walk to several of our schools. Any increased train traffic adds additional risk for these children.

An additional concern would be the noise pollution created by increased train traffic in our village. One of the railroad crossings sits a short distance east of Barrington High School, where I am employed. When a train crosses main street at that point we not only hear the train, but often feel the vibration the train creates. I can't imagine how any of the

Surface Transportation Board

ON-ES&E EIS - FD-35087

Log and Distribution

Date Rec'd: _____

HDR File No: _____

Seamless (BDR): _____

STARECTA: 5960

Cc: Original Job File

ER

homeowners who live close to the tracks will be able to tolerate any increase of noise or vibration.

Most residents of Barrington have worked very hard for many years to purchase and maintain our homes and the acquisition of the EJ&E by Canadian National would certainly devalue all of our properties.

We sincerely hope that as you consider the impact of this aforementioned transaction you will take realize how devastating this matter would be to our community and vote no for any increase of train traffic or expansion of any tracks on this rail line.

Sincerely,

Julie & Jim Kerr
971 Fairway Cr.
Lake Barrington, IL 60010-3801