

January 28, 2008

US Transportation Safety Board
RE: Docket No. 35087
Section on Environmental Analysis
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

To Whom It May Concern:

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

I am a resident in the Prestwick Community of 500 families and aside from the environmental impact to my neighborhood, such increased usage would wreak havoc on the traffic patterns in all of Frankfort and neighboring communities. Unlike Chicago, many roads in this area end in cul de sacs or other dead-end configurations. Also, very few viaducts exist in this area to allow for passage under the tracks and most crossings only have flashing lights. Emergency response vehicles (i.e. ambulance, fire and police calls), school buses (we have schools along the railroad route), a children's summer camp (directly bordering the tracks) would all be significantly disrupted and the flow of traffic and entry into neighborhoods would all suffer an impact.

The result of 28 or more trains per day passing through the EJ&E railroad would be catastrophic both environmentally and financially to home valuation. 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 our quant town and the Prestwick Community.

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,

Concerned Resident and Voter

Surface Transportation Board
al Impact study.
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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