

Other Submissions

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Docket #: - - -

Subject: * STB Finance Docket #35087
 First Name: * Carol
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 Last Name: * Vargo
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 Group/Affiliation:
 Message: Re: STB Finance Docket #35087

We would like to object to the CN Railway's proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway.

In Plainfield, Illinois, there are 17 roadway crossings of the EJ&E in the Village and 16 of the crossings are at-grade. The fact that the CN Railway would be running more trains that are much longer through this area would adversely affect the fire and emergency medical services providers and the school transportation. It would also affect commuters during the peak hours. If this proposal should come to pass the CN Railway should be required to create over/underpasses at a number of at-grade crossings to accommodate traffic movement and safety.

The proposal would also have a negative affect on the proposed development of the STAR commuter system along with expositing the community to potential disaster should there be a train wreck involving hazard waste.

The length of the proposed trains (some of them nearing 2 miles long) could bring the Village to a standstill isolating one side from the other. As described in the Executive Summary for the Draft EIS, the average delay time (i.e. 60 vehicles delayed by 1 minute would equal 1 hour) would go from 50 minutes to 149 HOURS! That is totally unacceptable.

Even if all the proposed mitigations in the Executive Summary were committed to and kept, the effect on the community due to traffic delays, noise, pollution, exposure to hazardous wastes being transported, and potential accidents is unacceptable.

We ask you not to approve CN Railway's proposed acquisition of the EJ&E railroad.

Sincerely,

Joel and Carol Vargo