

Other Submissions

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

Docket #: -STB -35087 -

Subject: * STB Finance Docket No. 35087

First Name: * Robin

Middle Name: DeCoudres

Last Name: * Singer

Address: * 303 Morgan Lane

City: * Fox River Grove

State: * IL

Zip Code: * 60021-

Email Address: * crsinger@msn.com

Group/Affiliation: Concerned parents and citizens.

Message: Phillis Johnson-Ball

Surface Transportation Board

395 E Street, SW

Washington, DC 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

To Phillis, Johnson and Ball,

Regarding the proposed EJ&E acquisition. Please refer to STB Finance Docket No. 35087 in all correspondence addressed to the Board. The comment period for the Draft EIS is July 25, 2008 to September 30, 2008.

We are the parents of 2 students in the Barrington District 220 school district who will be directly impacted, and whose safety will be compromised, if you approve this attempted acquisition.

Our fears are substantial and rational.

While we know the effects a 400-percent increase in freight traffic will have on our local economy, consider the following implications just for our schools and students:

* The Barrington School District serves a combined population of more than 10,000 students and staff from a service area of 72 square miles and beyond.

* Because the Barrington Transportation Company's fleet is based in the center of the Village of Barrington, significant delays and safety situations will occur throughout our district as buses cross the EJ&E line approximately 840 times per day to deliver students to and from ALL 12 schools.

* The EJ&E rail line intersects seven major thoroughfares in our school district; therefore, increased freight traffic will dramatically affect the commute times of staff, students and parents, which could alter school schedules and jeopardize the safety of the region's children as they travel to and from classes.

* Barrington High School is located only 600 feet west of the EJ&E tracks, raising

critical environmental and safety concerns in the wake of increased freight traffic.

* Approximately 1,700 of the high school's 3,000 students either walk or transport themselves to school each day. We can expect hurried or impulsive behavior among teens crossing the tracks as they rush to get to school, which could lead to tragic consequences.

* In addition to these dangerous conditions, increased rail traffic will result in significant transportation disruptions, delayed emergency response times and added costs for school district taxpayers.

The EJ&E acquisition - if it becomes reality - will adversely affect the welfare of students and staff, as well as our responsibility to provide a safe and cost-effective education for the community.

Do not put our community in jeopardy - in danger - the consequences are in your hands!

Thank you,
Robin Singer

Cliff Singer
crsinger@msn.com
PLEASE VOTE NO TO THIS ACQUISITION!