

PRESTWICK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

US Transportation Board
RE: Docket #35087
Section on Environmental Analysis
395 E. Street SW
Washington DC 20423

To whom it may concern:

The Prestwick Homeowners Association (PHA) would like to convey the following issues/concerns to the STB with respect to the CN acquisition of the EJ & E.

From the perspective of the PHA the best case scenario would be that the STB denies the transaction. If this is not the outcome and CN's acquisition is approved, then the PHA would like the following conditions to be part of STB's final approval report.

I. A raised grade separation be constructed at the Harlem Avenue – EJ & E tracks. A four-lane Harlem Avenue overpass would then carry vehicular traffic over the current RR tracks. Aberdeen Road would pass under the overpass (into Cook County) and access Harlem Avenue from the East.

II. A PHA “quiet zone” be enforced starting at Ridgeland Avenue on the east to Center Street to the west. Train idling would also be prohibited in this stretch of tracks.

III. Sound absorbent concrete walls or earthen berms, with suitable plantings, be installed on the north and south sides of the RR tracks in the Prestwick community.

IV. The earthen dam, located just to the south of the Prestwick communities be inspected by licensed Civil engineers and the dam reinforced as necessary to assure its integrity and prevent any structural failure due to increased RR traffic and tonnage.

V. The environmental impact from the NOX and particulate load on our 150+ year old oak trees and the Emerald Dragonfly which is found in our area needs to be evaluated.

The STB needs to consider the environmental impact and general havoc 28+ trains per day would have on our community.

We hope that the STB carefully studies our issues/ concerns and takes the necessary time to evaluate the ramifications of this acquisition.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Janice Lubas Werner
Secretary
Prestwick Homeowners Association
514 Durham Drive
Frankfort, IL 60423

Surface Transportation Board

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Drawings

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