

To Whom it May Concern,

I sat down at my computer to type this letter, but decided against typing it. I write it in my personal handwriting to highlight the fact that if the Surface Transportation Board approves the Canadian National purchase it will greatly affect exactly that - PEOPLE! Included is a photo of my family - included to put a face to my concern. We are hard working people trying to do our best for our community and family. My wife and I are school teachers. We love our house and neighborhood. The rumor of what this sale could bring frightens us greatly.

Definitely, I question... who are we that the STB should consider us when deciding on a \$300 million sale? Why would the STB concern themselves with the quality of life and home values of good people? Why would the STB be concerned with the safety of children living near railroad tracks? Why would the STB be concerned with the safety of a community in preventing police, fire, and ambulances from moving freely? I ask these questions, while knowing the answer - somethings are more valuable than money and freight!

I've grown accustomed to the occasional train. I can now sleep with the windows open as the 119th crossing is currently included in a quiet zone (please do not let this change). How happy will I be when the train traffic increases by 300%. Will my wonderful neighbors move? Will we be able to sell our house? Will the quiet zone remain in effect? How much earlier will we have to pick up our carpool to ensure they get to school in time? Will our patio be rendered useless as trains become constant? How long will it be before a child is killed?

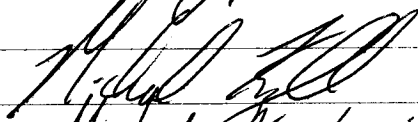
I humbly ask that you consider the ordinary people and our lives that would be greatly affected by this possible sale.

Sadly, with all this talk of Canadian National - I have heard nothing new in regards to the Metra Star line that we were told would connect Plainfield to O'Hare and Chicago.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope and pray that you consider the people and not only the money at stake.

If there is anything more that I can do - please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Sincerely,



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Surface Transportation Board

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