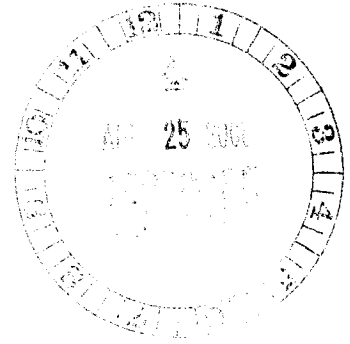


August 12, 2008

Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, acting secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Washington Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-001



Dear Ms. Quinlan:

I am a resident of Plainfield, Illinois and my property currently backs to Rt. 59 which has been slated for widening since 1999 when I moved here. Actions are presently underway to accomplish this. Other parts of Rt. 59 have also been widened during those last ten years. Unfortunately, the infrastructure upgrades were not in place before thousands of people moved into this area. Along with Naperville, Joliet, Plainfield and Channahon have been the fastest growing areas in the United States. Obviously, this has caused tremendous congestion and it has been difficult to go anywhere without an interminable wait in traffic.

In the last few weeks, the papers are now reporting the possible sale of the E J & E Railroad to Canadian National. This rail line runs through Joliet, Plainfield, Naperville and many other western suburbs. The proposed increase in number of trains will go from 18 to 42 with a train passing every twenty minutes. The length of the trains are also to be extended from 6,000 ft. to 10,000 ft. which will also increase the length of the wait at rail crossings not to mention tying up other intersections.

Due to the huge population increase, there are many school buses and emergency vehicles that run between the schools and hospitals every day. With roads being closed every twenty minutes the results might be more than frustrating....they could be tragic.

My husband and I are clearly against approving the sale of the rail line to Canadian National as are the majority of the people we speak to who live here that would be affected by the purchase. People move to the suburbs for a better quality of life. That will surely change is this sale is approved. It isn't just a few towns we are talking about...it's the entire western suburbs of Chicago. The negative impact the sale would have would be far reaching. At some point you have to ask yourself if the taxes, tolls, overpopulation, congestion and inconvenience in this area are worth it. In my case and possibly others the final answer may be no.

Sincerely,

Enid Schroeder
2617 Old Woods Trail
Plainfield, Illinois 60544