

219 Beaumont Lane
Barrington, IL, 60010
February 4, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
Attn: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Environmental Filing
STB Finance Docket # 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E railways by Canadian National. I live in Barrington, IL and must cross these tracks twice daily to get to work. My daughter must also cross them twice a day to get to and from school.

The proposed acquisition will be a huge detriment to our community. The trains proposed to run on this line are long enough to block ALL FOUR major at-grade road crossings in town, AND the commuter rail line that runs through town, all at once, resulting in MASSIVE traffic jams and the inability to get across town to work, to shopping and to the schools. In addition, 4 more at grade crossings are within a mile of the downtown area, creating further congestion throughout the area.

Emergency services will be stifled due to the fact that when one of these long trains passes through, ambulances, police and fire equipment will quite literally find themselves on "the wrong side of the tracks" resulting in unacceptable delays in response time. Areas served by our local hospital will also find themselves cut off from prompt service, as a major portion of the area is, once again, on the wrong side of the tracks.

Currently, 3-5 freight trains run on this line. CN proposes to run at least 18 and up to 24 trains daily, resulting in at least a 400% increase in freight traffic, and at least that much of an increase in vehicle tie-ups through town. CN describes their proposal as a "minor" increase in train traffic. Even at best, a 400% increase is by no means "minor". At worst, going from 3 to 24 trains daily is an 800% increase in freight traffic, and definitely a MAJOR concern to area residents and those who travel our roads to get to work and schools.

Unless some solution to these issues can be found, this acquisition should not be allowed.

Sincerely,



Terri Everwine
219 Beaumont Lane
Barrington, IL 60010

Surface Transportation Board

CN-STB EIS - (FD-35087)

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