

12741

September 9, 2008

Surface Transportation Board:

In our neighborhood near the corner of Eola and Liberty Street, we can hear the sounds and feel the vibration of the trains as they pass by. My neighbors and I use Liberty Street to travel east to work, to shop, and to visit family and doctors. It is not unusual to sit for more than ten minutes to wait for slow-moving trains to finish crossing over the roadway. The line of cars grows shorter as we sit because so many cars make U-turns in the middle of the road to turn back and find another way. This is a dangerous situation which will grow even more serious when more and longer trains are passing over the track. At the present time there are still many breaks in the day when there are no trains so we can safely cross over the tracks without waiting. The proposed purchase by Canadian National will change all that.

We are not only concerned about the wait time in travel. We are also concerned about increased noise and vibration and the increase of industrial waste carried over the tracks in our residential area. This is a community with many small children and an elementary school.

The public cost to our community to build by-passes over the railroad track will have to be paid by us for something that will only harm our community and will take many years to construct. The Surface Transportation Board's decision will have a significant influence on our daily life. We ask that you take this into consideration as you weigh the impact on our lives.

Sincerely,

Jolene Daugherty

Jolene Daugherty
1050 Woodview Court
Aurora IL 60502