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January 26, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423

Attention: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Environmental Filling
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-15087

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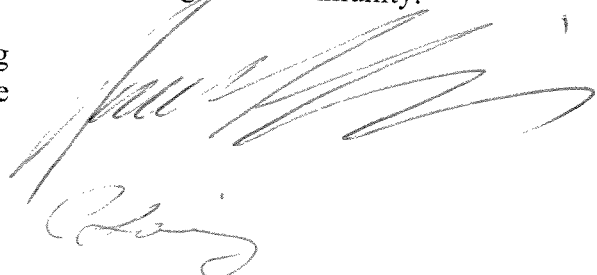
I am writing to express my belief that the proposed purchase of the existing EJ&E railroad line by the Canadian National Railroad (CN), will significantly and directly contribute to a lowering of the quality of life and economic stability of our community. As a member of the Oak Terrace Home Owners Association located in Diamond Lake (Mundelein), Lake County, Illinois we strongly believe that approval of the CN purchase of the EJ&E rail line will cause lasting, immediate and long term damage to our local environment and to our quality of life. We ask that you put the protection of human health and the environment ahead of the wishes of large corporations. Our home owners association is located in an unincorporated portion of Lake County, Illinois. Our home area is served by individual water wells and our lake provides recreational activities to our home owners and to the Village of Mundelein which shares a portion of the shore line.

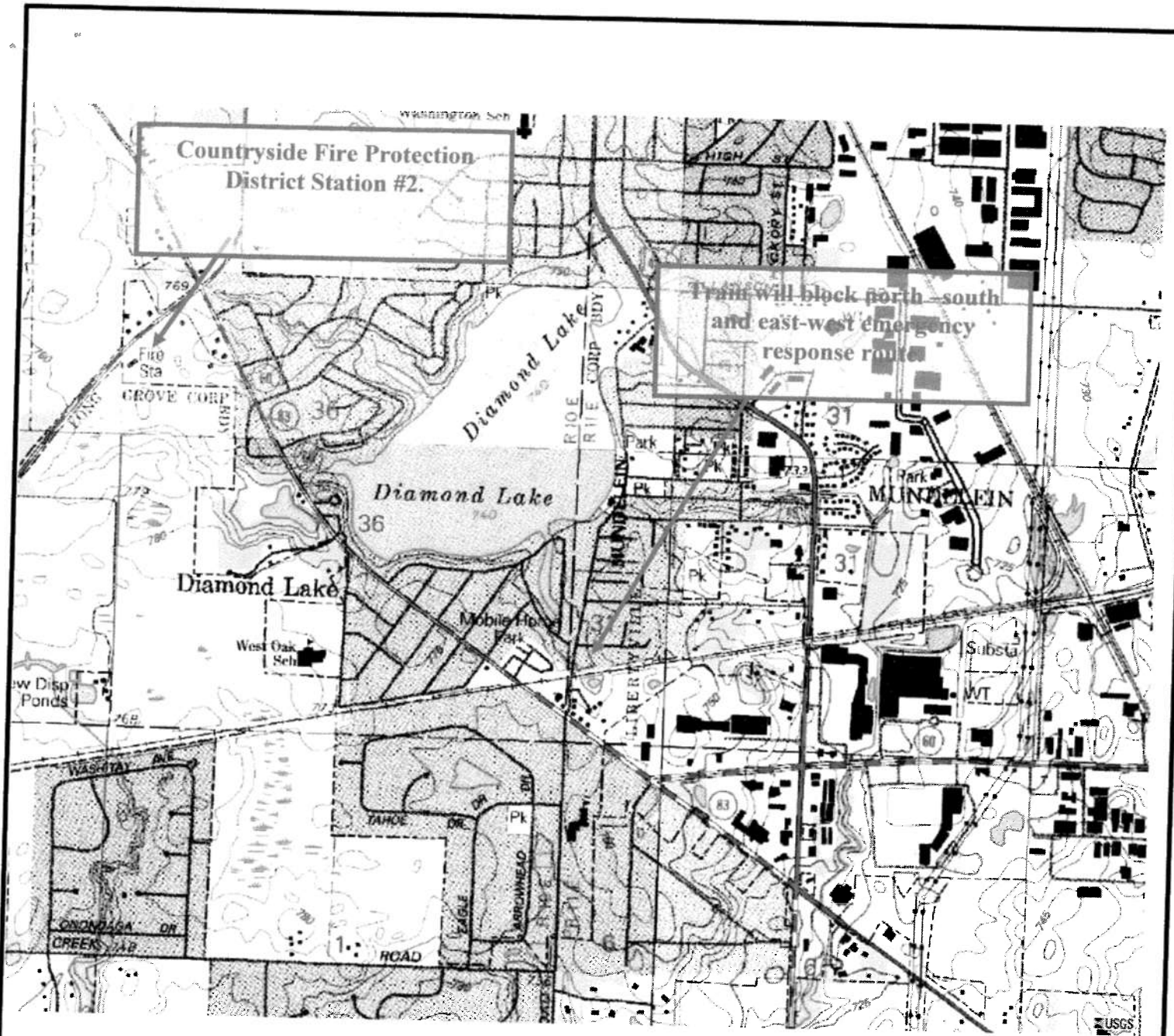
Increased traffic as proposed by CN for the existing EJ&E rail line will directly impact the quality of life and will cause immediate logistical hardship on the community. The ability for local fire and police to respond to emergency situations will be highly disrupted by the proposed rail line traffic increase. Increasing rail usage from the current 3 to 5 trains per day to 20 or more per day would likely result in paralysis of the local road system. Currently rail crossing are blocked from 5 to 15 minutes by individual trains on a daily basis due to the existing rail line usage. Increasing the line usage to 20 or more trains per day would result in potentially hours of total daily delays on the local roadway system.

In addition the increased number of trains will bring an unacceptable potential cargo of hazardous materials and potential hazardous wastes through the local area. We can also expect increased water run-off, noise and air pollution due to the increased rail line usage. We have shown the location of the existing EJ&E rail line and the US Route 60/83 and Diamond Lake Road crossing along with the local fire station on the attached Figure 1. For our attached Figure 2 a recent (2002) color aerial photograph was used to illustrate the local area, the Oak Terrace Home Owners Association, Diamond Lake and the proximity to the EJ&E rail line.

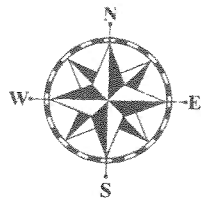
We would ask that you do all that is possible to stop the proposed increase of rail line usage on the EJ&E rail line. We ask that the US Surface Transportation Board **vote not to approve** the purchase and major change to rail line usage in the Chicago area as proposed by CN. We strongly believe if approved the CN increased rail line usage will result in a very negative and detrimental effect on our local and regional community.

Carol and James Loring
26288 N Maple Avenue
Mundelein IL 60060





**1993 Topographic Map:
USGS**

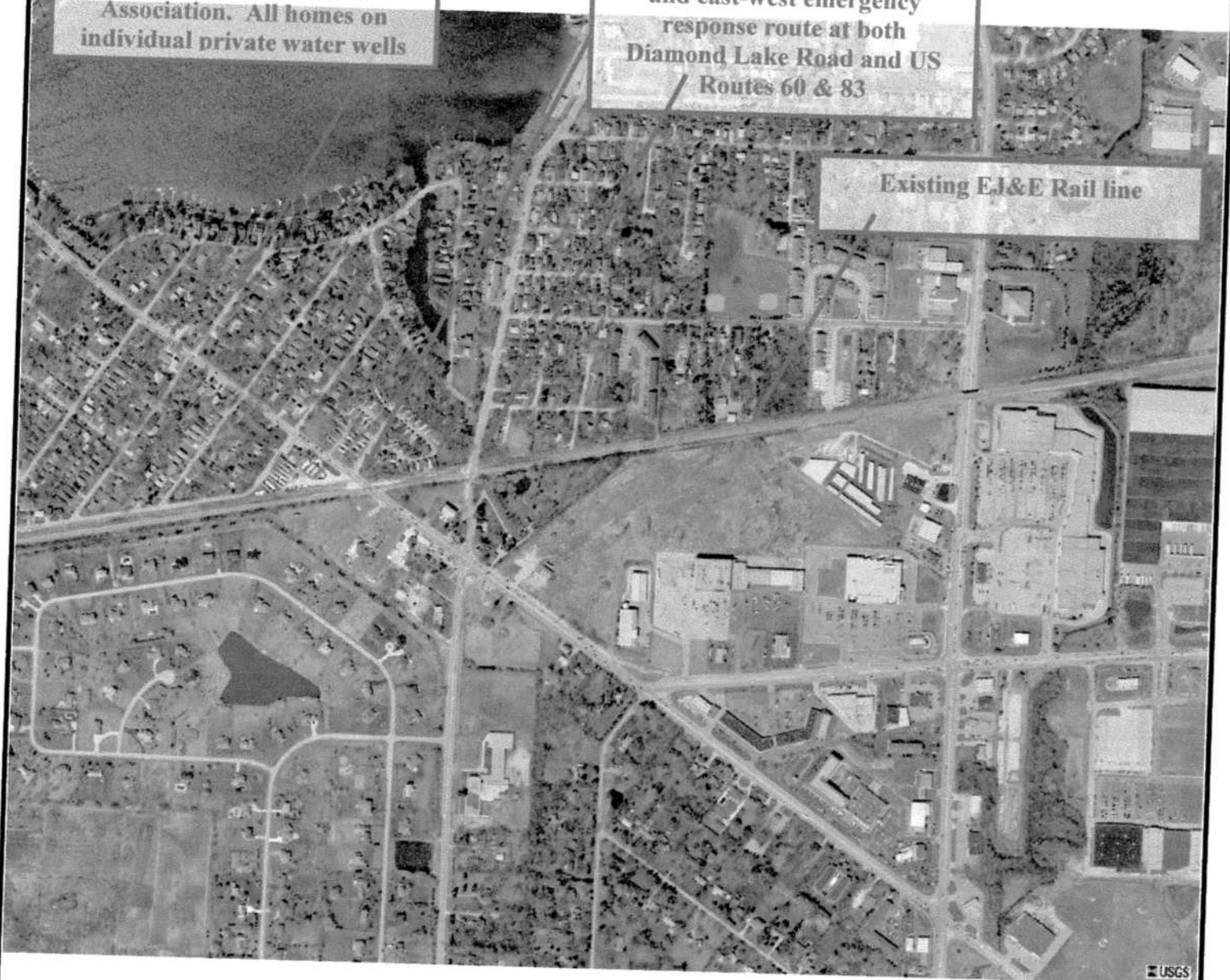


**Figure 1
Site Location Map
US Route 60/83 and Diamond
Lake Road intersection with
EJ&E RR Line
Mundelein, Lake County
Illinois**

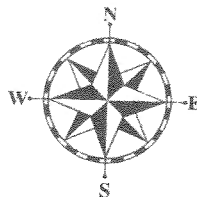
**Diamond Lake and Oak
Terrace Home Owners
Association. All homes on
individual private water wells**

**Train will block north-south
and east-west emergency
response route at both
Diamond Lake Road and US
Routes 60 & 83**

Existing EJ&E Rail line



**2002 USGS Aerial
Photograph**



**Figure 2
Site Location Map
US Route 60/83 and Diamond
Lake Road intersection with
EJ&E RR Line
Mundelein, Lake County
Illinois**