

Other Submissions

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Docket #:

Subject: * Canadian National and EJ&E
First Name: * Melissa
Middle Name:
Last Name: * Cunningham
Address: * 22491 Ledgestone Way

City: * Frankfort
State: * IL
Zip Code: * 60423-
Email Address: * 6hams@comcast.net

Group/Affiliation:

Message: Please accept my letter in regards to my concerns on the Canadian National and EJ&E train issue.

Craig and Melissa Cunningham
22491 LedgeStone Way
Frankfort, IL 60423

September 8, 2008

The Honorable Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-001

RE: Docket # 35087
Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation -Control- EJ & E West
Company

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I am a resident of Frankfort, Illinois who will be impacted by the CN purchase of EJ&E Railroad. I am writing to let you know about the negative impact this will have on my family and the residents of Frankfort, IL.

First, I would like to state a few reasons that the increase in trains per day will negatively affect my family. We have four young children and the first thing that comes to mind is their safety. Trains are a big safety issue as far as I'm concerned. I realize that trains are important for transportation but having an increase in the number of trains is really a safety concern. I live on the southwest side of town and the closest Frankfort fire station is on the north side of town. I would also have to cross over the tracks to get to a close hospital. Frankfort is a family town and there a lot of young children and teenagers. I don't like the idea of trains running 45mph through crossings with young drivers (or anyone for that matter) on the road. Plus, waiting for trains make people late, which in turn makes people drive recklessly, which causes accidents.

Secondly, we moved to Frankfort because it has a great school system and it is such a cute, quaint town. A great place to raise your family! I grew up in a smaller town in southern Indiana. There were so many trains running through my hometown. It really had a bad impact on the residents who lived there. Everyone constantly complained about the trains. You really couldn't get from one side of town to the other without getting stopped by a train. Sometimes you even got stopped by two. Even worse, trains would stop and you could sit there endlessly. It really made people hate the town. It truly makes a town ugly (sight, noise, smell, etc) having so many trains running through it. Increasing the number of trains to over 400% will turn this town into a similar town that I grew up in. I don't want this to happen to my cute, quaint town. I want people to want to move here.

Please take my concerns seriously. We, along with many other families, have spent a lot of time and money choosing a wonderful town like Frankfort. Please don't let it turn into a "train town".

Respectfully,

Craig & Melissa Cunningham