

August 27, 2008

U.S. Surface Transportation Board Members:

As a resident of Barrington for 14 years, I am speaking out strongly against the acquisition of the EJ&E rail line by CN Railway. This acquisition would significantly impair the quality of life in our community. Because of how the railway crosses our Village and school district, significant delays and safety concerns will occur throughout the Village with the expected increase in freight rail traffic. Because the EJ&E rail line intersects seven major thoroughfares in our school district, the increased freight traffic will dramatically affect the commute times of students, teachers and parents who cross these tracks numerous times per day. The increased freight traffic will jeopardize the safety of the district's children as they travel to and from class - walking, running, riding bikes, driving and traveling in school buses. My son crosses those tracks multiple times daily as he attends high school, and I am worried about his safety and that of other impulsive students exposed to the increased freight traffic. In addition, the high school is located in especially close proximity to the tracks which raises critical environmental and safety concerns in the event of increased freight traffic. Also of concern is traffic disruptions and the delayed ability of emergency vehicles to access critical situations due to increased freight traffic.

Please say NO to this acquisition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred & Pam Watson". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and connected.

Fred & Pam Watson
1004 Oakland Drive
Barrington, IL
847-382-5014