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Susan L. Kuen
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Barrington, IL 60053
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August 22, 2008

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

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

I am writing to you to express that I believe it would be a disaster for Barrington and the surrounding suburbs if the Canadian National Railway Company was granted the STB's approval to acquire control of EJ & E West Company and to use the EJ & E main rail line to connect all five (5) of CNRC's rail lines in the Chicago, Illinois Metropolitan Area.

I live five houses east of the railroad tracks. Otis is two-lane main east-west Cook County road with heavy traffic during the rush hours. It is a very popular street for runners, bicycle and motorcycle clubs. Whenever I have seen traffic stopped for the train (on the Otis track) the agitated drivers go at least double the speed limit once the train intersection opens. This creates a very dangerous atmosphere to the residents and visitors on our street. The other is that ambulances and fire trucks could be stopped for a long period of time at this section. It could be a life-threatening situation. If there was ever a chemical/hazardous waste leak on the train, would help be quickly on its way? What about a heart attack or stroke victim that lives west of the tracks? Will they be assured that the service they normally would receive would be given with the unpredictability of the new train traffic?

I also have environmental concerns. One of the reasons I moved to the Barrington/Barrington Hills area was because of the beautiful, forested landscape and all the wildlife that we are so lucky to have. The current trains are so loud. I can hear the few that go by and because they haul freight, they are very long trains and vibrate heavily. Some are 100 cars or more. Between the noise, pollution and vibration we will lose many species of animals. Not to mention, not even 100 yards away, the first home west of the Otis track that has two horse barns housing, I believe, six horses. How will the new trains impact them? We are lucky to have several turkey vultures that eat the

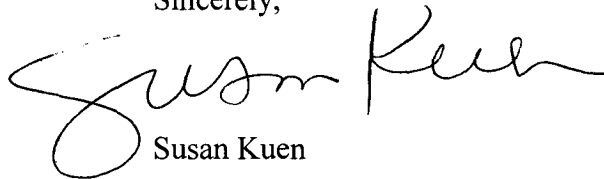
roadkill on Otis and on the tracks. They are a protected species. Will they leave our area because of the increase in trains?

Our home values will go down. Who wants to live by a dirty, noisy train track with a lot of traffic? How will this be beneficial to the residents? Will CNRC compensate us for our losses?

I appreciate that I have been given the opportunity to express myself to you. I hope that the Surface Transportation Board does not allow the CNR to acquire control of the EJ& E West Company and connect the five rail lines. Please don't allow them to destroy what we have in our suburb so that their profits can increase. There are many "wrongs" for people and animals in the CNRC's arguments to go forward with their acquisition. Please do what is right for a great community and the others that could be adversely affected by your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Kuen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" and the last name "Kuen" clearly distinguishable. The signature is positioned above the printed name "Susan Kuen".

Susan Kuen