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February 5, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

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

Dear Phillis,

I have lived in Deer Park since 1986 (over 21 years) and my home backs up to the EJ&E tracks. When we moved in there was only 2 trains a day. Now there are 5 to 6 trains which is a 200% increase. Many week days the train comes to a complete stop in my back yard to wait for the commuter trains to pass thru Barrington. The RR gates are down for a long time, especially since the train has to start up again. The traffic crossing these tracks could become a nightmare. The impact on traffic and emergency vehicles with 20 trains a day (almost 1 per hour) crossing these roads will be a disaster.

The EJ&E tracks run next to the Lake Zurich High School and they also come very close to Barrington High School. Several hundreds of buses cross these tracks twice daily at many crossings in their school district. These trains could make the buses late arriving at the schools, thus making students tardy out of their control. Emergency vehicles could be delayed creating many life threatening circumstances. The roads are already inadequate and stressed (very little widening over the past 20+ years) for the amount of building of homes and shopping malls that has taken place.

Why should the tax paying citizens have to waste their precious time waiting for freight trains to pass? Then there is also the expensive gas/fuel that will be burned and wasted plus all the air pollution created while waiting for all these long freight trains to pass. The "BIG GUYS" should not be able to make such drastic changes to make such a negative impact on the helpless citizens.

Please consider the negative impact this would have on all the communities and put a stop to the CN proposal.

THANK YOU!!

Sincerely,



Karen Powal
21947 Green Forest Road
Deer Park, IL 60010
(847) 540-8980

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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