

01113, 012208. BUTIRRO. PUTZ. 60192. D.N.

January 22, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
Attn.: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Environmental Filing
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

We wanted to express our concern and dismay regarding the EJ&E tracks near our neighborhood of Bridlewood in Hoffman Estates. The tracks cross Shoe Factory Road just east of our neighborhood and west of Route 59. We understand Canadian National may be trying to purchase these tracks and plan to run 5 to 20 more trains per day.

Our main concern is the Emergency Response time increasing for Police, Fire vehicles, as well as ambulances. These vehicles come from the east and must cross these tracks to get to our neighborhood. A couple of years ago, a house in our sub-division burned to the ground. We believe there was a 9-minute response time and there was no train to contend with. We will be virtually defenseless if 20 additional trains are added.

We have also seen how the traffic backs up from the train tracks back east to Route 59 during rush hour. There is a large hill that poses a great risk to cars sitting just west of the hill waiting for the train to pass. Although, there are signs, when cars come flying up the hill from 59 heading west, there is no room to stop without running into another car. While you would expect everyone to read these signs warning that the hill blocks your view, it is still happening. We know of one accident in December where at least 3 cars were involved and one car totaled.

We know you have to look at all aspects of this issue before making a decision, but we implore you to consider the safety and well being of our family and neighbors. We cannot think of anything that could be more important than human lives.

Sincerely,

Robert & Joan Butirro

Robert & Joan Butirro
5230 Birchbark Drive
Hoffman Estates, IL 60192
847-695-2704

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