

January 30, 2008

US Transportation Safety Board
RE: Docket No. 35087
Section on Environmental Analysis
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is regarding Docket No. 35087, Section on Environmental Analysis. We are extremely concerned about the proposal to utilize the railroad tracks passing through the southern boundary of the Prestwick subdivision of Frankfort, Illinois, for the passage of 28 trains every 24 hours.

The result of 28 or more trains per day passing through the EJ&E railroad would be **catastrophic!** The NOX and particulate load, the additional noise from train whistles and engines, and the smell from the diesel would increase drastically. The overall impact would be **extremely detrimental to the environment and quality of life in this area.**

In addition to the environmental impact to the neighborhood, such increased usage would negatively impact the traffic in Frankfort and neighboring communities. Unlike Chicago, many roads in this area end in cul-de-sacs or other dead-end configurations. Also, few viaducts exist in this area to allow for passage under the tracks. This would impact emergency response vehicles (i.e. ambulance, fire and police calls), school buses (we have schools along the railroad route), and significantly disrupt the flow of traffic and entry into and out of neighborhoods.

On a more personal level, transporting four children to their various schools and activities would become something of a nightmare with the proposed additional train traffic. From our home in the Prestwick subdivision, the most direct route to the nearest hospital involves crossing these tracks. With an increase in trains and the ensuing vehicle backups, we shudder to think of what could happen in a medical emergency.

It is our **strong and urgent request** that the plan for this railroad be altered so that the tracks are moved to a less populated area to the south. **This can be accomplished!**

Sincerely,

William Matevich
Judith Matevich

William and Judith Matevich
Concerned Residents

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

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