

10489

Other Submissions

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Please fill out the following information to help us complete your filing:

Docket #:

Subject: * EJ&E acquisition by CN

First Name: * Nancy

Middle Name:

Last Name: * Donati

Address: * 325 E. Liberty Street

City: * Barrington

State: * Illinois

Zip Code: * 60010-

Email Address: * cubanancy@comcast.net

Group/Affiliation: Resident

Message:

Please do not approve the acquisition by Canadian National of the EJ&E rail line. The increase of freight traffic through the village of Barrington from about 5 trains a day to possibly 40 or 45 would have a completely devastating affect on the entire region. Barrington already must struggle with the traffic problems that result from the confluence of three major highways, a major commuter line (Metra) and the current EJ&E traffic, but we have all learned to live with it, because apart from being a nuisance, it has never threatened our safety or our quality of life.

This proposed acquisition, however, has the earmarks of disaster written all over it. Picture 20 or 30 additional freight trains, many up to a mile in length, thrown into play and you will see ambulances, fire trucks and other emergency vehicles unable to respond, because they are stuck in traffic. People will die, and multi vehicle accidents will occur with regularity. Consider the increased danger to children trying to get to school each day, and commuters trying to reach their places of employment. Think about the environmental impact these freight trains will have on the wildlife, the wetlands and the communities that make up the greater Barrington area, especially if there is a hazardous waste spill, which I understand, has happened all too frequently along the CN lines throughout Canada.

I have lived within a quarter mile of the EJ&E train line for almost 50 years, and have always found it to be a good neighbor; in fact, I have enjoyed hearing the occasional train whistle during the night. I certainly do not, however wish to have this compounded by 10 fold and have my quality of life, and property value destroyed, simply to satisfy the bottom line of a foreign company, which, in reality, is what this is all about.

Please do not destroy our lives, our homes and our safety; rather, do what you know is right and do not approve this acquisition. On Wednesday night, there will thousands of residents protesting at the Barrington High School public meeting, and making this same request. Please listen to us!!