

080215 Juffernbruch

Hello this is Daniel Juffernbruch at 28 Barrington Bourne, Barrington IL 60010. My comment is that the proposed Canadian National Railway acquisition of the Elgon Joliet and Eastern Railway under Surface Transportation Board docket #fd35087 should be denied and not recommended or approved by the federal government. This is because decades ago the Elgon Joliet and Eastern railway circumscribed the outside perimeter of the Chicago area. Decades later the Chicago area has grown and there are many homes and businesses and schools and other facilities. The population is very dense now. And so shifting the traffic further out to a further out ring is really not avoiding population centers any longer. Furthermore, and most importantly, there is an acute problem in the village of Barrington IL. Barrington is the confluence of 3 major highways and 2 railroad lines which all intersect within a small area of about 5 or 10 blocks. You have Highway 59 North/South. You have Northwest Highway US 14 going Northwest/Southeast and you also have county line also known as Lake Cook Road going East/West. All of these areas intersect within a few block so of one another and it is going to create total gridlock if additional lines is approved. Particularly a freight line which has trains of excessive length. This needs to be denied. There is no infrastructure to support this kind of traffic through Barrington. Finally, my third and final comment is related to safety. Even if this was approved, there is no way to guarantee the safety of the residents and children in the area. There are a number of schools including a large high school near the tracks. Additionally, there is no limits on the type of cargo and how it can be transported. A chlorine tank could blow up on the tracks and numerous people could be killed. Need I say any more? Additionally, there is safety with school bus traffic. All the children by and large take school buses to school. Finally, a supplementary comment has to do with allowing a foreign company to come into a small community of Americans and put the global interests over the local interests. Thank you for hearing my comments and have a nice day.

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