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**Larry & Kathy Cotter
21510 Old Farm Rd
Deer Park, IL 60010**

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423

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

We are opposed to the Canadian National Railroad's (CN) plans to purchase the EJ&E rail line, which cuts through our highly residential area from Hoffman Estates, through South Barrington, Barrington Hills, Barrington, Deer Park, Lake Zurich, Hawthorn Woods and Mundelein to Waukegan.

CN has estimated an increase in freight traffic on this line from 5 to 20 additional freight trains per day.

Obviously, this could have a **severe** impact on the community. In the Barrington area alone, there are eight crossings at street-grade level along the EJ&E tracks. The increased freight traffic could have broad impacts on the region's transportation, including significant delays to already congested arterial roads. Some commuters to northern Lake County towns like Antioch and Lake Villa could face huge backups along Illinois Route 59. Driving from Crystal Lake, Woodstock and McHenry into northern Cook County along U.S. Route 14 could also become much more difficult, effectively cutting McHenry County off from easy access to Chicago.

In the past several years, my children have arrived late to school due to buses having to wait for freight trains to pass. Increased traffic will only increase these delays, which severely interrupt the school day, ultimately affecting learning.

Along with other residents, school districts, village officials, hospital staff, and emergency workers, we request the STB OPPOSE the sale.

While it is a quality of life issue for many of us, it is also an economic issue. The increased profits that would result from the sale and increased train traffic would go to a foreign owned company.

Thank you.


Kathryn A Cotter

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