

Other Submissions

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Docket #: - -

Subject: * Candian National Acqusition of EJ&E railroad
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Message: To whom it may concern,

Please heed the message of this comment. Do not approve the acquisition of the EJ&E railroad by the Canadian National rail line. There are no positive effects of moving a nuisance to another area to just alleviate the congestion in one area. Chicago is the rail hub of the nation. I left a suburb of the City of Chicago, called Berwyn, and was leaving the neighborhood where the IC rail line ran literally 1/2 a block from where I was living. I left right after the Canadian National acquired those lines to "make it easier for everyone to receive goods". Well, I for one am well aware of idling locomotives on the tracks that run through Berwyn for days even weeks at a time. I am also well aware how a 1/3 mile train running from McCook IL through LaGrange IL and that takes it well over 45 minutes to make it's way threough. The problem is that all crossings in that area are grade crossings, so on the side of safety they have to move at a slower pace and be mindful of pedestrians and vehicular traffic at those grade crossings. The impact felt here in our, "wealthy neighborhoods", as eloquently uttered by Mayor Silvestri of Elmwood park, that we don't want it in our backyards, is that these trains are going to be over two miles long sometimes, and increase in frequency. All crossings in Palinfeld IL are graded crossings, and since the village hall members decided to pass a noise ordinance in lieu of those trains, rail movement will be that much more slower. I ask you, do you have the time to wait for a two mile train travelling at slower speeds? I bet you don't, but then what do you care? You live in a totally different state. There is a reason why this is such a hot topic. The City of Chicago doesn't want them, so in their infinite wisdom, what they don't want, they just move. Canadian National does not have the best "track" record either. They are prepared to dump a little money for economic welfare. They aren't even a U.S. company. I think that's the other hitch to this purchase. If it were some tycoon from the U.S. I think people wouldn't care. It keeps the money in our markets. Since it is a foreign company, this money leaves our borders and benefits another country. I would be willing to submit my fuel bill when I am caught by these two or more mile long trains. Please don't forget that these lines are going to be packed to their gills with freight. If you have one train going in you have another going out. So,

actually the traffic will quadruple in our area. It will bring our economic growth to a standstill and then it will dwindle to nothing. Business will not come here if they cannot move their product. I hope you do listen to the little people, but if the green is in your pockets already, than this is just a futile attempt to dissuade you. Thank you for your time.