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Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423
Attn: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Environmental Filing
STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Feb. 11, 2008

To Whom it May Concern:

I live in Wicklow Village Subdivision in Lake Zurich, Ill. Our neighborhood borders the EJ&E railroad line. Consequently, I am very concerned about Canadian National Railroad's proposed acquisition of the EJ&E rail line, which would significantly increase the amount of freight traffic through our area.

This rail line runs right through neighborhoods, next to school buildings, near a local hospital, next to community parks, and across critical intersections in Lake Zurich and Hawthorn Woods, Ill. The safety of not only our children, but all local residents will be greatly affected by the increased freight traffic that the acquisition is expected to generate.

In the park in my subdivision alone, a busy soccer and baseball field are located within yards of the railroad track. And nothing separates the track from the park, except a partial wooden fence of residential quality in one small area. Such a significant increase in freight traffic, with longer trains, some carrying hazardous material, and more noise pollution would present a safety threat not only to neighborhood children, but the many families that use these recreational facilities.

The increased freight traffic would also present a safety issue at a local elementary school and the Lake Zurich high school, both of which border the tracks, not to mention how the increased noise will disrupt classroom learning and sports activities at the fields at both schools.

As disturbing as the increased, noise, air pollution and traffic congestion would be, those problems pale in comparison to the risk of danger and threat to personal safety presented by this potential acquisition. I respectfully ask that the U.S. government put an end to this proposal to protect the welfare and safety of an area that is not equipped to handle such an increase in train traffic.

Thank you for your consideration of this serious issue.

Respectfully,
Kimberly Carey
1967 March St.
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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