

.. 03137. 012508. PACEY. PCTZ. ~~Let~~ 62801. O.N.

January 25, 2008

Dear Mr. Nottingham:

As a resident of Centralia, IL. I am very distressed regarding Finance Docket No. 35087 that would impact Amtrak's service to this community and many others in Southern & Central Illinois.

All of Southern Illinois has been hard hit by some politicians' way of doing business that only benefit Chicago. We are citizens too and deserve to have our needs acknowledged. My mentally handicapped son uses this train to come home regularly. I have also spent the last 6 years working as a volunteer on renovating a downtown theatre which is adjacent to the Amtrak tracks and is included in tourism plans for our community and the surrounding area.

An alternate route is available that will not eliminate our Amtrak service to Chicago. Please consider delaying this approval until a compromise can be reached.

Amtrak service in Centralia has increased 57% since 2004 and a third train was even added this past year for service to Chicago as well as a new train station built and improved parking done at a cost to the city.

Please be aware that others are being hurt by the possible elimination of this Air Line Route. Please require that CN preserve this route at no additional cost to Amtrak or the State of Illinois until the Grand Crossing Route is completed.

Sincerely,
Jane E. Pacey
Jane E. Pacey, 601 E. Fifth St., Centralia, IL.

cc.

Hon. Senator John O. Jones
Hon. Rep. Kurt Granberg
Hon. U. S. Congressman John Shimkus
Hon. U. S. Congressman Jerry Costello
Hon. U.S. Senator Dick Durbin
Hon. Senator Barack Obama

Surface Transportation Board
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