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Margaret Hernon
<book_writer@comcast.net>

To: <Congressional.Public.Services@stb.

02/03/2008 01:36

dot.gov>

PM

cc

Subject: Surface Transportation Board Finance Docket No. 335087

Please be aware that when I click on e-filing on the STB website, as instructed, nothing happens. So I am sending my comments regarding this matter herewith and hope they will be routed to the appropriate department. I live at 1924 Butler Drive in the Westridge subdivision in Bartlett, Illinois. Our area is already heavily impacted by uses that are not harmonious with residential neighborhoods, such as trucking, gravel mining, limestone blast mining, and a host of other uses, such as asphalt batching, trash transferring, and auto part salvage operations on a massive scale. Had I not had 3 days to buy a house when we relocated here, I never would have ended up here, and I suspect most of my neighbors feel the same way. The existing rail operation adds to the inconvenience of living here. Recently a gate had come down (the ICC thought maybe a truck radio frequency had triggered it) and I was stuck in the lane waiting for over an hour (yes this is true) until I turned around. The problem is, there is no easy alternative route when the gates are down. There is the need to U-turn in West Bartlett Road, double back quite a ways, and then find the alternate road. The new Bartlett Fire Station is under construction on the other side of the tracks, so its proximity will do little good if there is a train blocking West Bartlett Road. Already we have a problem with air pollution with particulate matter. I called IEPA once about the mining operations kicking up so much dust you frequently cannot see anything when a truck turns onto West Bartlett Road off of the many unpaved access-ways. My contact at IEPA said they did issue a citation, that was several years back. I would call more often, but don't want to be labeled a pest. I can't imagine what toxic soup would result when diesel fumes would mix with the dust that always hovers over West Bartlett Road. I am also worried about hazardous materials. As mentioned previously, our points of access are somewhat limited. If there were to be an accident or spill, it would likely be near or at the crossing. That lane would be blocked. Then we would need to go west to Rt 25 or north on Gifford, confronting many trucks. While this is definitely a Not in My Back Yard issue for my household, I ask you to understand that we already have many things in our back yard. We already shoulder a higher than average burden of noxious uses as homeowners who pay taxes and vote. If this purchase is permitted, I would ask that the new owner be required to construct, before the sale is consummated, a grade separated crossing at West Bartlett Road. Consideration should also be given to construction of alternate access-ways to Stearns, to allow motorists to take an alternate route without backing up. Further, there should be some electric signalling at the points of entry/exit to the subdivisions on West Bartlett advising that the road is blocked so they can choose an alternate route, again without backing up and U-

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Janice Hernon
1924 Butler Drive
Bartlett, IL 60103
630-497-0806

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