

15898

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Docket #: -35087 - -

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Message:

Sirs: As I have watched the buy out unfold, there are serious issues with CN railroad that have not been answered. First, the CN is only concerned with moving freight from the East Coast to the West coast. They are not an American company and are concerned with moving big trains back and forth. I now many short line railroaders and they all agree that CN is just looking for more easy profits at anybodies expense. They will not provide local freight service to all those communities, so where is the impact statement from that? It takes three trucks to move one boxcar worth of freight. Where is the impact statement of the extra truck traffic in the towns and road wear and tear? Or the extra fuel use that hurts our countries ability to defend itself and hurts the economy? The trains will be at least two to three miles long; it will take three to ten minutes for a train to clear a crossing. How are police and fire/EMS to get through? In Cardiac arrest, irreparable brain damage occurs at four (4) minutes. A delay of medical care of this amount is unacceptable and criminal. the CN makes billions, they should have to pay for an under or overpass on their own. To ask us to pay so they can make billions more profit while I pay for it is WRONG. If someone I know dies because the road is blocked, who pays for the medical care delay. In addition, why can't they put a second main line in on the right-of-way? The cost of underpasses must be borne by the greedy railroad that cares more about itself than others. Lastly, please require them to put in an underpass every mile apart if needed and they pay for it totally. it is to their benefit so they should pay for it. The taxpayers get no benefit so they should not foot the bill. Big business that makes billions can improve access as a cost of doing business. The CN does not enjoy a reputation as a stand up company- just talk to the Wisconsin Pink Lady Commission and rail transportation groups. They will use the line and not keep it up, then when it is worn out, abandon it and move elsewhere. They are considered the vultures of the rail industry, and for good reason. If you approve the buy, make sure they pay for underpasses at every major road and a maximum of one mile apart. Also, guarantee that all business along the line will be provided with regular rail service and not be disconnected; also these must provide rail service as good or better as is now provided and take on new customers if they want. More companies are turning to rail, as it is cheaper and more efficient to ship this way. Rumor is in the past they have

deliberately provided poor service to locals, so people got fed up and trucked their items at more costs. This way they could just shoot through and did not have to pay a crew to switch freight in and out. "Let some little short line handle the busy work and make up our train for us so we can make the big money" Please reject this buyout, or at least do not give away the bank. Set conditions of service and paying for crossing work on their shoulders. Do NOT LET THEM ABANDON ANY PART OF THE LINE OR CUT LOCAL SERVICE, FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHICAGO AREA ECONOMY. I would be willing to testify at any hearings if needed. This could affect the entire Midwest economy for years to come. Common sense dictates rejection or some strong guidelines are set to prevent the big company from running over the average citizen's best interest. Thank you for your time.

Kevin Pickar