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Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington DC 20423

Attn: Phillis Johnson-Ball - Environmental filling-Docket 35087 :

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with the U.S. Surface Transportation Board and express my concerns about the possibility that the Canadian National Railway's plan to increase R.R. traffic thru our Village. I want to bring the board's attention to the following issues:

1. I have a history of bleeding which requires immediate hospitalization. If train traffic obstructs my ability to get to Good Shepherd Hospital, the consequent could be my death at a R.R. crossing. I have documentation from the University Of Chicago, Doctor Russell Cohen, directing me to go immediately to the closest hospital emergency room. I was hospitalized May 2007 with a life threatening bleed that did not resolve my condition and that I was advised that I would encounter another incident sooner or later. When freight trains that are greater than 1 mile long go through our village, this has the real potential to threaten my life. I have been hospitalized for a cancer operation, a heart attack, and 2 bleeding incidences which were life threatening. I know that I'm not the only one with this concern.

2. My next concern relates to the disruption of street traffic and the huge impact to Police, Fire and Ambulance movement to take care of emergency situations. I have lived in Barrington for over 35 years and the growth of auto/truck traffic has increased beyond belief. There have been many times when the congestion will delay a trip to downtown or to the high school 15 to 30 minutes. I live only one mile from downtown and less than two miles to the high school. This delay is already due to train commuter traffic at the downtown train station. Think of the difficulty to school bus schedules and the disruption of the homes of all school children and their parents. The traffic congestion will also have a major increase to pollution. This will definitely affect my asthma.

3. The next concern relates to noise created by these freight trains. This train traffic goes right thru residential neighborhoods with the high school being located along side of the tracks. I am less than two miles from these tracks and the noise is terrific. Their horns are deafing.

4. Many issues proposed by business enterprises are normally influenced by lobbyist and the financial clout that companies like Canadian National Railway's bring into the decision. Certainly any infrastructure (underpasses/overpasses) should not be absorbed by the tax payers. If this proposal is seriously considered, any costs need to be absorbed by CNRR. I have been retired since 1991 and my purchasing power has only 50% of it's purchasing power. I just can't withstanding more tax increases.

With the above situations, the impact to economic development will be a serious concern. We already have the Northwestern train traffic going right thru our business district. We can ill-afford to create additional obstacles to this community.

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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