

Car.

January 28, 2008

Comments regarding STB Finance Docket NO. 35087

My home sits on 3+ acres of land which borders the EJ&E railroad. My family and I are quite concerned about the **significant** impact of a **400+%** increase in the number of freight trains on the tracks with the CN acquisition plans. Several reasons are safety, environmental concerns and economic concerns.

Safety Issues-

The tracks that border my property are along a very curvy stretch of track. This fact I believe would increase the likelihood of a catastrophic derailment. In addition to having four children and a dog living only a 100+ feet away from the trains concerns me regarding their personal safety. The other major concerns would be that potentially passing trains would block all access to our hospital, Good Shepherd Hospital. Having an asthmatic child having in the past needing emergency services, I have needed quick access to the hospital. With the proposed usage the probability of having major delays increases significantly.

Environmental Issues-

We live in area that has only well and septic services. Living so close to the tracks what would happen in the event of a derailment of trains hauling dangerous chemicals? What would be the consequences of an accidental release of chemicals without having a derailment? Living as close to the tracks with the frequency of trains proposed increases the probability of a disaster. The other effect of the trains would be the non-stop noise that is generated by the freight trains. Living as close to the track curves is extremely loud when a train passes and effects our families to sleep at night and to even have a conversation while the train is passing by. Today we get by with the train noise generated but based on the forecast of the number of trains to use the tracks, it will become personally intolerable.

Economic Issues-

This proposed railroad plan will significantly destroy my property value. Although we live close to Village of Barrington we have coyotes, deer, and other wildlife nearby. With the volume of trains proposed this will be destroyed. Combined with the overall destruction of the general property values this proposal will be more significant to my family.

As a minimum there should be a significant limit on the frequency of trains, sound attenuation, underpasses or overpasses to limit the effects of blocking major roads.

Respectfully submitted,

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Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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