

Surface Transportation Board
395 East Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: Canadian Pacific Railway Acquisition of Kansas City Southern, Docket #FD-36500

Dear members of the Surface Transportation Board,

I write to you today to voice my concerns about the proposed merger of Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern railroads. I know I share similar fears as my neighbors here in Cook County, Illinois when it comes to the lack of deliberation about the implications of such a merger and the profound effects it will have on our area, and all those in which it passes through. It is quite clear that such impacts have not been thoroughly reviewed for the safety, climate, and public implications it will have on my community and communities along the tracks.

My first and foremost concern is the safety implications of this merger and how it will impact local communities. With Canadian Pacific's [history](#) of accidents, such an increase in rail traffic is a serious cause for concern. The merger will result in as many as 20 [more](#) trains carrying dirty and dangerous Canadian tar sands running through my community each month, and this puts us at a greater risk of experiencing something similar to the infamous 2013 oil train [explosion](#) in Quebec. Additionally, at-grade crossings will most likely experience slower response times – which results in apprehension when considering the need for emergency vehicles. This increase in cars and additional units, especially in densely populated areas, is a frightening bet to place on the safety of neighborhoods throughout the region.

The impact on our local communities cannot be understated. An increase in trains that are inevitably longer due to this merger will actually result in a net increase of such greenhouse gases. Additionally, the oil coming from Canada is extracted from the earth in large, open pit mines, resulting in a much more carbon-intensive [process](#) than oil produced in other regions.

While the merger will be exacerbating the climate crisis, there's clearly not much about this deal that benefits the public nor has the public been consulted sufficiently. The application for this \$31 billion mega merger offers very little for the public and flaunts the alleged increased profits to both companies, primarily through the [\\$1 billion in "revenue synergies."](#)

As someone who will be directly impacted by this merger, I simply ask for sufficient deliberation of this mega merger with consideration of all the consequences and possible mitigation factors. Without clear details of the deal, members of the Surface Transportation Board and representatives of the Biden administration should review the communal and public impact with an environmental analysis of the impending consequences. Absent this, the consequences will soon come to fruition and it will be too late to turn back the clock.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Carroll