

Other Submissions

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Docket #: - -

Subject: * 35087
First Name: * Kimberly
Middle Name: Jean
Last Name: * Auchstetter
Address: * 2195 Palmer Ranch Drive

City: * New Lenox
State: * IL
Zip Code: * 60451-
Email Address: * kauchstetter@newlenox.net
Group/Affiliation:
Message:

September 25, 2008

Phyllis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Phyllis:

I am writing in opposition of the Canadian National Railroad (CN) proposed purchase of the Elgin, Joliet, and Eastern Railway (E. J. & E.).

I live about a mile south of the E. J. & E. railroad tracks where they intersect with Nelson Road in New Lenox, Illinois. I am concerned about the impact of the proposed increased number of trains, the length of the trains and the noise that will result in these CN trains. I am fortunate to live on the same side of the tracks as the New Lenox Fire Station #3. However, I do not live on the same side of the tracks of the New Lenox Police Department. This concerns me since I have had the need to contact the police department for emergency service in the past. In the instances where I needed their service, had there been a train blocking the intersections (most of the 5 railroad crossings in New Lenox can be blocked by a 3 miles train) the police department might have not responded favorably to my emergency as they did.

All of my family's activities are north of the railroad crossings from my residence. These activities include attendance to school, work, sporting events and practice. If a train delays our arrival to these commitments, there a penalties such as docked pay, tardy slips at school or extra exercise. I understand that it is my responsibility to plan for they possibility of trains, but our busy lives sometimes do not allow for additional time to get to commitments.

If the sales transaction is completed by the CN and E.J. & E., at a minimum, the CN should be required to make the improvements to the crossings such as bridges before utilizing the railroad. Any improvements necessary to keep the flow of traffic from the north to the south parts of New Lenox should be the financial burden of the CN not the taxpayers of New Lenox or neighboring residents.

Please take my letter and the many other letters that you received in opposition of the CN purchase of the E. J. & E.

Sincerely,
Kim Auchstetter
Village of New Lenox Resident