

16981

Other Submissions

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Docket #: -STB -35087 -
Finance

Subject: * CN acquisition of EJ&E
First Name: * Jerry
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Last Name: * Bradley
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Group/Affiliation:
Message:

I strongly feel the impact of the of the Canadian National Railways acquisition of the E.J. & E. Railway will adversely affect our neighborhood due to the inadequate infrastructure of our existing roads. I live within the Old Renwick Trail Subdivision which is located five blocks North of the E.J.&E Railway that intersects our neighborhood at three different locations Gaylord Road to the East, Essington Road and Renwick Roads to the West. These two lane community roads will not be able to support the additional traffic and this will only cause a considerable amount of traffic congestion, impede and slow down emergency response vehicles time on the way to the Hospitals that are located approximately five to six miles South (Essington & Gaylord Roads) of these E.J.&E. tracks.

Within the past twelve years I have seen a considerable amount of growth in the housing, factory, and store construction markets within the following communities Crest Hill, Joliet, New Lenox, Naperville, and Plainfield these are just some of the towns that the E.J&E. Railway currently run through. I have not seen many developers provide these communities with the adequate infrastructure to accommodate this expansion. Since 2003 I have been living at this present location of 3711 Saratoga Drive, Joliet, IL 60435 and shortly thereafter the frontage road access (Essington Road) that intersects Renwick road at the I-55 overpass was rerouted through our community. This south bound two lane rerouting at Old Renwick Trail Road is .8 tenths of a mile long that becomes Essington Road were the E.J.&E. rail crossing is located. Our community is already experiencing increased traffic flow as a result of this change and this road is used to access the West Field Mall, stores, the RT 30 I-55 entrance ramp that I use to go to work and the surrounding hospitals.

With the number of trains increased from sixteen to forty two and the train length at 10,000 feet this acquisition will only further congest and overburden this current two lane road that runs through our community This additional automobile traffic will cause our side roads to back up from Essington Road to the Old Renwick Road intersection

that is only capable of providing two way (East and West) traffic relief out of this subdivision. And our community will become overrun with angry drivers that will attempt to avoid this traffic congestion and use our side roads as a means to escape this congestion thereby causing our roads to experience an increase in automobile traffic thus jeopardizing our citizens and children's safety.

The Plainfield Township has an ordinance within their village that prevents the trains traveling within their community from sounding their horns and the signs are posted at the rail crossing stating this fact. The train passes through Joliet before it enters Plainfield and they are exceptionally loud as a result of this and these horns sound throughout the day and night preventing my 3 year old son from taking a proper nap during the day or sleeping soundly at night. Another issue that must be addressed is the Renwick Road E.J.&E rail crossing this is another two lane road that runs East & West and the rural speed limit is 50 m.p.h. this will only provoke aggressive drivers to try to outrun the train and the Plainfield High School is approximately one mile west of this crossing.

The Canadian Railway already acknowledges the fact that the Chicago Railway system is congested and they have the nerve to bring our community this same type of congestion and trying to avoid. As a United States Tax Paying Citizen I do not appreciate the fact that the Canadians and our Political representatives expect use to eventually fund the additional infrastructure in the near future as a result of their expansion. No Way!!!!

I do know that the United States tried to circumvent the Canadian Rail system and spoiled the Canadian suburban life style with congested roads, increased noise, and air pollution. This proposal suggests they would be just as outraged as I am. We are already as Tax Payers bailing out our own financial institutions as a result of Greedy C.E.O.'s, C.F.O.'s, and Business Managers that already burden our lives with excessive taxes.

Sincerely
Jerry Paul
3711 S. Washington Ave
Joliet, Illinois