



Environmental Impact Statement

16335



CN | EJ&E

## Voicemail Transcript

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed  
Canadian National Railway Company Acquisition of the  
Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company  
STB Finance Docket No. 35087**

File 092908\_Lee4.wav

Date 09/29/08 11:11 PM Transcribed by WK

F. Name Bob

L. Name Lee

Title Business

Dept

Address 285 N. Valley Road

Address 2

City Barrington

State IL Zip 60010

### Transcript:

This is section 5 and I'm resented by not being able to sit and talk this on one in a lengthy manner, this is a hell of a lot more important than a three minute comment and I'm afraid that people aren't taking it that way and looking at the impact of lives that you're gonna have and totally ruin financial security of people, we talk about a mortgage crisis, you're gonna create a mortgage crisis, a mini one, right up and down these tracks because of property values going down, and I've already addressed that, so I don't want to get into it again, but you know, we need public transportation. We need trains, we have freight, people say we are NIMBY people from Barrington. We have 70 trains going through in commuter trains everyday, no ones complaining about those, but to cross those with the EJ&E with 20 trains up to two miles long is just going to completely destroy this community and destroy the reliability of our public transportation. People say CN will talk to and consider and negotiate with Metra, but those negotiations need to be done first. Who has priority and are they gonna schedule freight trains around 70, you know, commuter trains and then what's this do to the STAR Line that hopefully we would have going around the city to take the burden off of our road system and this is going to destroy that and again, CN says, we'll discuss it, but guys, you've got to mandate something in here, you've gotta mandate that they pay for the cost of it. If someone's gonna benefit, let them pay for the cost and see if it's worth it to them. But why should the American taxpayer, and that's you and I, be paying for this ludicrous deal? Now they, the traffic delays are completely understated, I, you can't be right with your average daily traffic count on Northwest Highway or I know you would be asking for a grade separation. You know, I think the speed of the trains are overly optimistic and who am I, but I know what speeds the trains, much smaller trains, run through town now. We watch them, and to take them, you know, faster and bigger I think is looking again for a greater hazard and a greater risk and greater impact on life, and the public safety of this with the thousands of kids that cross these tracks everyday and you just imagine having your kid late for school, walking to school, they have to cross the tracks and the gates start going down and they start rushing and we can say this won't happen, but I'll guarantee you, there will be more deaths out there and I think people need to stop and say why is that, and who's causing it, and I wouldn't want that on my conscience. We talk about the hazard haz mat materials, to send 185 cars through, down these EJ&E tracks everyday just does not make sense in the condition these tracks are, and it doesn't make sense, you know, in any condition and who is looking at the safety from a Homeland Security standpoint, these are being brought into Canada and crossing our border without the scrutiny that these containers are coming into our borders. Why isn't this being addressed? What happens if we do have a chemical attack on one of these trains? Who's conscience is that going to be on? Without the proper safeguards put in place to be sure all this freight is scrutinized as closely and how scrutinized it is coming in our ports is questionable, but it's much less if it's coming across the Canadian border and just to let a Canadian corporation benefit from this and have all the impact on residents and US taxpayers doesn't make any sense, our tax base is gonna be destroyed, our property values are gonna be destroyed with no, no benefit at all. Um, <cut off>