

September 28, 2008

STB Finance Docket No. 35087

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY OPPOSITION TO THE EJ&E ACQUISITION WHICH WILL BRING MANY UNWANTED TRAINS, ON A DAILY BASIS, THROUGH THE LINCOLNWAY COMMUNITY, MY COMMUNITY.

AS IT IS, WILL COUNTY IS ONE OF THE LARGEST AND FASTEST GROWING COMMUNITIES IN ILLINOIS. WE ARE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING HUGE TRAFFIC DELAYS DUE TO COMMUTER TRAINS, SCHOOLS, AND INCREASING LOCAL TRAFFIC, TO NAME A FEW. THESE UNWANTED TRAINS WILL PUT A HUGE BURDEN ON THIS ENTIRE COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY FOR OUR POLICE, FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION. WE CERTAINLY CANNOT AFFORD FOR OUR EMERGENCY SERVICES TO GET TIED UP AT THE RAILROAD CROSSINGS FOR 20-30 MINUTES AT A TIME AND NOT BE ABLE TO PERFORM THE JOBS OUR COMMUNITY RELIES ON.

NEW LENOX DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH ROADS TO BYPASS TRAFFIC CONGESTION, NOR CAN WE BUILD OVERPASSES. WE ARE NOT SET UP THAT WAY. OUR TOWN DOES NOT HAVE THE CAPACITY TO ACCOMMODATE THE HEAVY DELAYS THESE TRAIN WILL CAUSE, ALONG WITH THE NOISE OF THESE FREQUENT TRAINS, POLLUTION FROM IDLE CARS SITTING AT RAILROAD CROSSINGS, AND THE TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS THROUGH OUR COMMUNITIES.

THE LINCOLNWAY AREA IS ALREADY STRUGGLING TO KEEP ITS REPUTATION AS A TOP RATED COMMUNITY KNOWN FOR ITS FINE SCHOOLS AND HOMETOWN APPEAL. THIS ACQUISITION WILL DEFINITELY DEGRADE OUR COMMUNITY AND CREATE A LESS THAN DESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.

THIS CANNOT HAPPEN!!!!!! CAN'T THE CN FIND A PLACE FARTHER SOUTH WHERE THE POPULATION ISN'T BOOMING? WHERE THEIR PRESENCE WON'T INTERFERE WITH OUR QUALITY OF LIFE????? WHERE WE WON'T BE EXPOSED TO THE ABOVE HAZARDS AND INCONVENIENCES????? THIS CANNOT HAPPEN!!!! FIND SOMEWHERE ELSE TO REROUTE THE TRAINS. THE CN IS NOT WELCOME HERE!!!!!!

**The Gordy Family
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