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February 2, 2008

To the Transportation Safety Board:

My family has been residents of the Barrington area for over eight years. We live in the northern part of the district but travel through all areas on a daily basis. The proposed increase of traffic on the freight lines through the Barrington area will dramatically affect our day-to-day travels.

We will soon have a son in middle school and he will travel daily to the opposite side of the tracks. Should there be an emergency of any kind, and there is a freight train hindering our ability to respond or get to him, it could be devastating. BOTH middle schools in our district are on the south side of the freight tracks, so this would apply to ALL families with middle school age children north of the tracks.

Already, we avoid going through downtown Barrington "like the plague!" Increased rail traffic in the downtown area would make us frequently detour. The municipal football fields, some basketball programs and our baseball "home" field are all on the south side of the tracks. Increased trains throughout the day would increase our commute times and create additional safety issues.

My grandfather was a boilermaker and I grew up riding the trains, but this type of expansion would negatively impact our quality of life in Barrington. My hometown spent years and years and finally millions of dollars for railroad relocation to eliminate the downtown disruption of too frequent trains cutting off businesses and halting daily traffic patterns. Canadian National Railway, with the acquisition of Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway, is proposing **exactly** what my hometown invested time and money to **undo** and eliminate! Please don't let Barrington get into this **mistake**!

Thank you for researching this proposal and listening to the citizens it would effect.

Sincerely,



Annette Budzak
47 South Wynstone Dr.
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Sent to Transportation Board

On: February 2, 2008

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