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Subject CN-Elgin transaction

I am not sure what the proper protocol is for writing a letter about our concerns with the new acquisition. So I am just going to write to you my thoughts and feelings.

2 years ago, my husband I were finally able to put the money together to build our dream home. This was the home we were going to raise our three boys in. If you ask my husband, this is the house you will be burying him out of. That is how much we love our home. We knew when we purchased the home that there were railroad tracks close to the home. We were assured by the builder that only 3 trains rode that track daily. Since my boys were avid train lovers, I felt that it would be fun being close to the train. Since we moved in, we have noticed that there are definitely more trains, many that ride the tracks at night. We have come to the conclusion that we can not open the windows at night, since the multiple blasting of the horns would wake up my children. But, we were resigned to our fate and have adjusted to the trains.

Now we find out that there is an acquisition of the train tracks and that the trains will be going from "5" a day to 28!!!. Not only that, the trains will have twice as many cars and double the engines!!! Our peaceful community is going to turn into a train yard. So now we are dealing with continuous trains, noise pollution, infrastructure damage to our homes due to the train's vibrations, lost of property value and endangerment to our natural wildlife. The sad part is that we are told that we can write voicing our concerns, but chances are nothing would come out of it. That it is a "done deal". I wish the CEO's of these transportation companies would live by one of their tracks. Oh, did I mention that I am stopped by trains almost daily since our roads do not have the necessary bypasses for the trains? Once the trains are coming hourly, living in this town will be a disaster.

I hope that my concerns are taken into account in the environmental studies that are ongoing. Please consider the people! Aren't we just as important as the bottom line?!?!?!?

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