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Michael & Ann Severson
1410 Mallard Lane
Hoffman Estates IL 60192

To: Melissa Bean & Mark Kirk:

My husband and I live approximately 150 feet in front of the E J & E train tracks. We are completely against this acquisition of the E J & E by Canadian National Railroad. The noise and vibrations of the constant traffic of freight trains will definitely lower our quality of life and lower our property values.

We also have huge concerns due to the lack of safety this will bring. There will be over 10,000 train cars of hazardous materials on old train tracks. The current tracks were never created to carry the amount of trains the Canadian National is planning on sending down those tracks. This will be going on just 150 feet from my front door! A derailment is possible and would be devastating to many in our community.

We have many deer that live in the Shoe Factory Forest Preserve that will end of getting killed by the trains as well as the huge risk of potential accidents at the many suburban railroad street crossings.

The noise pollution and vibrations will definitely affect us since my husband and I work out of our home. Some trains have squeaky rusty wheels and make a horrible noise the whole time they are near our home. The trains travel slow and the noise from each train lasts quite a bit. No one working from their home would be able to work with the windows open in the spring, summer or fall. The emissions from the trains would have a bad impact on the quality of air in our community and on our landscaping and the forest preserves.

It is going to be a hazard for ambulances and police who are trying to get through to get stuck at these train crossings. Also the school buses will be delayed and are at a greater risk of getting hit by a train since all the crossings do not have safe bars to stop the traffic.

I am pleased that you have taken your time to hear our complaints and listen to our issues. I am interested in knowing what you can do to defend our region in this transaction. I hope as elected officials that you will put together an aggressive game plan that uses your full powers to defend the interests of your constituents and communities affected by this. We really need some proactive leadership on this issue now.

These are just some of the many, many reasons this acquisition would affect out communities in a negative way. Please add my husband & I to any mailings on the progress of this issue. We are counting on you for help in any way you can.

Thank you.

Ann & Michael Severson

Michael A. Severson

Severson, Michael A.
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087
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