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Docket #: FD -35087 - -

Subject: * Canadian National Railway Company acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company

First Name: * Vijay

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Message: Hello:

I live neat the rail line now owned by the EJ&E Rail company that is being proposed for a takeover by CN Railways. The following are my concerns:

1. Safety: The rail lines today have traffic in the order of 2-3 trains per day. It is now clear that the rail lines are suitable for the high level of volume and weight that CN will put on these lines.
2. Safety: There is a significant number of private residences on one side of the line (Hoffman Estates, Elgin). Some of these residences are served by the Bartlett Fire Department (shortest route to the homes require crossing the rail lines). With the amount of rail traffic that the acquisition will introduce, the response time will be impacted and what this means for the safety of the residents.
4. Safety: The school buses that the children of the community in Hoffman Estates take cross this rail track. With increased traffic, the safety of the children is compromised. Also, school children will spend more time on the bus instead of in the school.
4. Pollution: There is a significant amount of land that is classified as a Forest Preserve next to where the rail line goes through (Area between the rail line and Rt. 59 all the way from Rt. 90 down to golf road and beyond). It is not clear what the impact of the increased rail volume will have on these natural areas.
5. Pollution: The sound from the increased traffic and horns blown by the engine will cause significant noise pollution for the residents and for the adjacent Forest preserves.

I hope in light of these negatives, the acquisition of the EJ&E rail line will be denied.

Regards
--Vijay Agarwal

Surface Transportation Board

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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