

Diana Wood
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

EI-7062
DHW
FD 34836

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 34836

Dear Ms. Wood,

My name is Gene Robert Larson and I live north and west of the newly proposed railroad line. I have lived in this area all my life and am very unhappy about how I will be affected by the new line.

I am concerned about stopping traffic on the highway for a train to cross at-grade. I can see that this will cause serious traffic issues not only for general traffic, but for school busses, emergency vehicles and trucks hauling hazardous materials. I live close enough to the proposed new line that traffic would be backed up to my driveway, which causes me to be concerned about such things as ingress and egress to my property and possibilities of vandalism and theft because people have time to sit and look things over on my land.

I am also concerned about the noise of the train and what will happen to the value of my land and others around me because of the train going through. My son lives in my father's house, which is over 100 years old. What will the vibration of a train do to this historic structure which has been in my family for so many years?

I worry about flooding caused by the river when a bridge goes across it. Is the railroad concerned with protecting people who live in the area from flooding? I know that things change and progress happens. But I want the railroad to know that I have many reasons not to want the train in that area. I have been told that there is a comment period that ends today, March 31, 2008. I would ask that the comment period be extended by 60 days so that we, as residents, can better respond.

Sincerely,


Gene Robert Larson