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January 9, 2008

The Canadian National Railway/Purchase of the E.J.&E Railway company.

As a 20 year home owner and for the last 32 years a business owner, within the community of Barrington my wife and I find the likelihood of the Canadian National Railway purchasing the E.J.& E Railway would result in a profound negative effect on the well being of the Barrington Community. Auto traffic during peak times of the day is deplorable at present and would only become more so if 15 to 27 more freight trains are added to the present daily schedule of 66 passenger trains on metro plus one or two Freights on U.P. The reality would be in a 24 hour span we would have from 3.5 to 5.5 trains per hour to deal with. The added train traffic not only would have a negative impact on the commuting work force in Barrington, but would also be a negative effect on the desirability to live in Barrington area. Add to this it would certainly impact the emergency services, E.M.T., Fire, and Police. Response time could very well be effected. Timely access to Barrington High School and Good Shepherd Hospital, because of their location (West of the E.J.& E. Rail line) could be difficult at times.

The safety of the entire community must be considered, CN will be moving by rail various chemicals and petrochemical products. The increased probability of train accidents and derailments due to increased traffic must be taken into account.

The above concerns if not dealt with effectively, obviously will lower home and land values, be less attractive to new business, medium and small manufacturing, and the general service industry. The net effect in a very short time will mean a less effective tax base to maintain a growing and vibrant community,

Canadian National's purchase of E.J.& E would present a major multiplicity of problems for the community. Please consider the impact this transaction would have on our community. Exam this proposal carefully and completely before making a finding.

Thank you for your attention to the above.

Sincerely,



Barbara & Joseph Rush
Owners Langdon's of Barrington