

Hayley Eissler

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Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

To Whom It May Concern:

We appreciate the Transportation Board's interest in evaluating the environmental and safety issues affecting our community. And we appreciate the strength and power the railway holds; however, we are confident that you will find that the purchase of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway by the Canadian National Railway is not a viable solution.

As a resident of Barrington, Illinois, I have great concerns about this purchase. First and foremost, this transaction would increase the train traffic around Barrington by more than 400% - the impact on the safety of our children, our property and way of life, would be devastating. There is no way around this fact.

From the effects of pollution, noise, delays, etc., this community, landlocked by the railway, will not survive! As a resident living at 240 Elm Road, in Jewel Park, we are only yards away from five major EJ&E ground level crossings. Today, we have already felt the effects of large and heavy trains moving through the area. Steel posts have been added to the infrastructure of our home in order to offset the rigorous shifting that is felt every time a train passes through. Increasing traffic for tomorrow will only continue to diminish the integrity of my nearly 100 year old home and its property value.

How will our fire and rescue departments get to those in need when they're stuck on the other side of a freight train? What are the chances that my young child won't somehow be struck by a train while trying to get to the park? What will happen if my home cannot stand up to the continued shifting felt during a train passing through? These questions and more, hit at the core of what this acquisition means to this community. I urge you to examine and consider the impacts this purchase will have on everyone, including the railway.

Sincerely,


Hayley Eissler