



BARRINGTON AREA
CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

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November 15, 2007

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Rutson:

I understand that Canadian National Railway is planning to purchase the Elgin, Joliet, & Eastern Railway Company. The purchase would substantially increase the train traffic around the Village of Barrington, IL—some say there will be at least 15 more trains per day. Such an increase concerns me greatly, and I write to urge you to examine the impacts of this transaction in depth, particularly the effect it will have on the livelihood of the already struggling businesses in the area during this economic time.

Currently, I serve as President for The Barrington Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC). I have been in this position for six years. The BACC is dedicated to promoting and expose the businesses in the area. BACC serves the Greater Barrington area – Village of Barrington, Lake Barrington, South Barrington, Deer Park, Tower Lakes, Barrington Hills and North Barrington.

In the 90 square miles that we cover, I have never seen such a close-knit community. Bringing the Canadian Railway to this community would cause great detrimental disparity to the community. The increase of freight rails in the town would not only impact the residents that live along the lines but business in the town would decrease rapidly and that is something that we just cannot afford.

As you can see, Canadian National's purchase presents real problems for the members of this community. Without your protection, we have no way of protecting ourselves from noise, traffic, safety at grade crossings, etc. Please consider the impact this transaction will have on our community and its environment extremely thoroughly before you approve the proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janet Meyer
President, BACC