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Main concerns I have are the impact the increased trains would have on traffic patterns and commuting, decreased property values, and access to schools and EMS. Regarding commuting, I commute twice a day to Schaumburg from B and have to cross over the J track line twice at NW highway. During high commuting time, I already see a minimum of half a mile backup on heading west to east on NW highway (RT 14) to get from Hugh street to Lake Cook Road. Even a minimal increase in train traffic across NW highway would have a significant impact on the traffic flow through the NW suburbs.

I am also concerned of what the impact of increased usage of the rail line would have on property values of homes near the rail line. I live less than a half mile from that rail line and purchased that property knowing that the rail line was only minimally used. An increase in usage of that rail line would adversely effect my ability to get to work, to pick up my kid from school, and subsequently resale value of my home. We moved to B from Chicago with the intent of raising a family in an environmentally friendly town in close proximity to good school. A significant increase in freight trains would most definitely affect the quality of the environment where I live and the schools that my kids attend.

Regarding the schools, all schools my kids would attend in relation to my home would need to cross this rail line multiple times a day in order to get to and from school. Knowing that there have been several accidents on the METRA rails with school busses in the NW suburbs, specifically the NW rail line, I would be deeply concerned having my children need to cross both an increased capacity on the EJ&E line and the NW METRA line multiple times a day.

With these things being considered, the proposed acquisition of the CN EJ&E rail line will cause me to consider our investment and long term residency in B.

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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