

450 West Highway 22
Barrington, Illinois 60010-1901
Telephone 847.381.9600



January 9, 2008

Regarding: The Canadian National Railway and Barrington Illinois

To Whom It May Concern:

Hello, and thank you for affording me the opportunity provide feedback today. I am Roseanne Niese, the Nursing Director for Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital's Emergency Department, Emergency Medical Service, Trauma and the Medical Intensive Care Unit. We take great pride in the care we provide to the community.

I am here today to talk to share our concerns about how the plans of the Canadian National Railroad will impact our ability to care for our patients.

The Canadian National railroad's plans to purchase EJ & E Railroad and the resultant increase in rail traffic will impact patients' and associates' ability to emergently arrive to Good Shepherd Hospital on a daily basis. I am extremely concerned about the negative consequences these delays could have on patient care.

If, as the railroad intends, freight train traffic in town increases by 15 to 27 trains per day, it will in effect block highways and roads for the emergency medical service and from staff who are to arrive to care for these patients every hour of the day. So, it will effectively cut off much of our hospitals' patients from receiving life-saving treatment at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital.

The effects of these trains will be to displace and endanger our traumas, cardiac and stroke patients who come to our facility each day. Every day either the patient who is driving or the ambulance called to help expedite care by starting their treatment will be delayed in coming to the hospital because of the lengthy freight train expansion proposal.

It is the expectation of the hospital that associates from the cardiac catheterization lab and the operating room arrive within 30 minutes of a phone call about an emergent patient. Many of those calls are made prior to the

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patient's arrival due to the excellent relationship between the Emergency Medical Service and Good Shepherd.

In a disaster situation, such as the Cary bus accident of 1995, multiple vehicle accident, or any other situation to which our hospital is responsible to respond to, we require all associates available to arrive to the hospital as soon as possible.

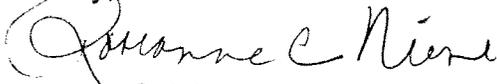
Although we have experienced delays caused by freight trains in the past, they have been few. However, freight train traffic expansion these delays could be much more frequent. Hourly trains moving throughout the heart of our city can only hinder our respond in life threatening situations...

The literature for medical care for trauma, stroke and cardiac patients all speak to managing time and how the effects of delay in treatment effect the life and death of a patient, how in good conscience can our facility not be concerned with the increase of freight trains.

Another very obvious and serious concern with the expansion is the potential for a hazmat spill. This community's odds of facing a potentially catastrophic hazmat spill will increase 800% through this plan. There are several family homes and schools in the area near the current freight train tracks. The potential for serious injury related to any hazmat spill is frightening and is not in alignment with our need to keep our Barrington community a safe community.

We request that the plan for the Canadian National railway system be reconsidered. There are several safety concerns that are not acceptable to our hospital and community.

Sincerely,



Roseanne C. Niese
Director Emergency, EMS, Trauma
Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital

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