

We are writing with our concerns of the purchase of the EJ&E railroad tracks that run along side of our house in Frankfort, Il. Although it may seem like the right thing for all of you to do to help cut back on the congestion in the Chicago area etc., etc., for us in the suburbs that this will be affecting, this just does not seem right. All I can say is "what are you thinking"? Yes, you may say this is progress but we do not want to see this type of progress passing thru our town.

We moved to Frankfort, Il for the quaint community that it is. You are going to take all of this away from us. Why not do a trial run for a month in your backyard and thru your town, just to see how well it is going to work before you bring it to us. Sounds ridiculous right, well so does your idea. The number of trains going from an average of 8 a day to an average of 31 a day will definitely have a serious impact on our community. This means that there will be an average of 1 or more trains an hour, 24 hours a day. We have emergency vehicles that pass over these tracks. How are they going to get around this increase in trains? The length of the trains could extend 10,000 feet in length or 120 cars. The weight of the trains, the size of the engines, now 2,000 horsepower will increase to 4,000 horsepower, are also concerns. I'm assuming this also means that there will be more noise from the bigger engines. What the trains will be carrying is another big concern. We understand that the increase in the transporting of hazardous materials on these rails will increase more than 350 percent. How can you rationalize all of this? Please try to spend your 100 million dollars in finding a way so that you will not ruin our community along with all the others that you will be sending all these trains through.

We hope you will take a serious look at what you are doing and how many people you will be affecting in a negative way. Please, try to find another way.

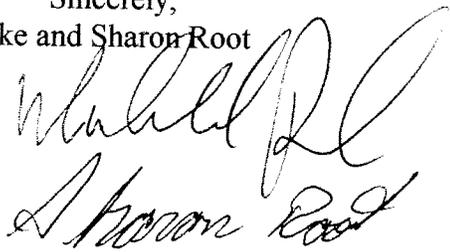
Thank you for taking the time to read this. I can only hope that you will take another look at what you are doing.

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

Sincerely,
Mike and Sharon Root



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