

CN PURCHASE OF EJ&E RAILWAY

TRAFFIC CONGESTION

As a resident of Barrington, I know that it is already difficult to drive through town in a timely fashion due to train traffic on the EJ&E, Union Pacific, and Metra lines.

If this traffic was to dramatically increase on the EJ&E line, we will bring auto traffic on our major roadways to a screeching halt. This entire population will suffer, and local commerce will find it very difficult to hold onto their businesses as customers will flee to neighboring towns.

An example of local business is GE Healthcare which is situated on Hwy 14 and houses the Corporate Offices, Engineering, and Educational Resources for Healthcare IT in North America. Hundreds of employees travel to this site each day, as well as others from around the world that are guests, customers, and off site employees. Each day they will have to navigate on roads that will be more and more impassable.

School buses will be held up by this traffic, as well as parents who are delivering and picking up their children. This will be a nightmare scenario for all.

It will affect the timetable of the Metra lines going into the city, as the EJ&E lines cross theirs.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Emergency vehicles will be slowed, and critical response time will be jeopardized.

Noise pollution has many adverse health effects. Studies have shown that noise such as that from freight trains can raise blood pressure, lower immune system responses, and cause learning problems in children.

Toxic pollution will also accompany this increased traffic, and put the entire community at risk.

Mary Eichler
Resident of Barrington