

Joseph Sieger  
736 Oak Road  
Barrington, Il 60010

November 29, 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:

Someone in Barrington, IL might die if you do not act.

The Canadian National Railroad (CN) is seeking approval from the federal Surface Transportation Board to acquire the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E). The EJ&E railroad tracks are an obstacle between the Fire Department and the area's only hospital. When a train is on the EJ&E, it blocks the Barrington Fire Department emergency response vehicles.

This is an already too frequent problem. I know because I live 100 yards from the EJ&E train track (my house is 736 Oak Road) and half a mile from the Barrington Fire Department.

Take last Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup> as an example. Around 10:30 AM my wife, Maureen Sieger, was driving eastbound where the EJ&E tracks cross Highway 14. **A freight train was crossing and blocking an ambulance with its lights flashing in the westbound lane.** The ambulance was either being blocked from taking an injured person to the hospital or was being blocked on its way to rescue an injured person.

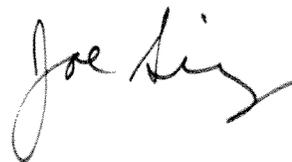
It was TEN (10) MINUTES before the freight train finished crossing. My wife carefully measured the time and immediately called the Village of Barrington to report the delay. Since the train had already started crossing when my wife came to the intersection, she does not know how much longer than 10 minutes the ambulance was delayed.

I am concerned to learn the Canadian National Railroad intends to significantly increase the number of freight trains crossing Highway 14; this means more blocked ambulances and fire trucks. Every citizen of Barrington will be put in more jeopardy.

Please act to have the federal Surface Transportation Board take into account the increased health and safety threat from a sale of the EJ&E Railroad to the Canadian National Railroad.

This literally is a matter of life and death.

Thank you,



Joe Sieger

736 OAK RD  
MILLERSVILLE PA 17329

CAROL STREAM IL 601

30 NOV 2007 PM 3 T



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

