

Subject: Regional Opposition Building -- Create Pressure!

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Conversation: Regional Opposition Building -- Create Pressure!

As you have been reading in the papers, the CN acquisition of the EJ is becoming a “high profile” issue, especially in wake of the meeting between Senator Dick Durbin, Congresswoman Melissa Bean and CN CEO E. Hunter Harrison. We thank them for meeting with CN and were surprised that CN wasn’t more accommodating of the issues they raised. We need to keep up the pressure to insure that the concerns of impacted communities are front and center in the debate, so please contact both Senator Durbin’s and Rep. Bean’s offices (or your congressional representative) to encourage their continued involvement.

On March 7, numerous communities impacted by the acquisition met in Joliet and discussed taking a united stand in opposition to CN’s plans for the EJ. Representatives from DuPage and Will Counties hosted the meeting that was attended by local elected officials from Lake Zurich, Hoffmann Estates, Barrington, North Barrington, Barrington Hills, Naperville, Aurora, New Lenox, Bartlett, Frankfort, Joliet, Mokena, Schererville, Warrenville, Crest Hill and Plainfield. The next meeting of the group is planned for early April and we hope to further the opposition fight.

To that end, please call your local elected officials and ask them to become involved with this regional Coalition. It is important that we activate not only the communities directly on the line, but also those villages and townships that will have their commuter traffic constantly gridlocked by an ever-increasing line of mile-long trains rumbling down the J tracks.

Elected officials from those communities that would like to become involved can contact the office of our Barrington Coalition spokeswoman – Village President Karen Darch c/o jemerick@barrington-il.gov -- and we will insure that these names are incorporated into the mailing list of opponents. If you care about this issue, make sure that your local elected officials become involved with the activities of the regional Coalition, so call your local Village Board trustees and let them hear your voices!

Best Regards,

Suzanne Devane