

September 16, 2008

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

I strongly object to Canadian National Railway Company's acquisition of EJ&E West Company, a wholly owned noncarrier subsidiary of Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company.

As a local resident near the railway (I reside in Aurora, IL with a Naperville address), I am concerned about the noise, safety issues, the affect on my property value, traffic congestion, and the increase in my property tax. *If this transaction occurs, I will move my family out of this area at the first chance I get.*

The fiscal health of the communities located along the EJ&E is based on revenues derived from property and sales taxes. That revenue is used to support school districts (of which we are supporting the building of a new high school in progress now near the rails) and maintain first responder capabilities in the region. The failure of the DEIS to calculate the ripple effect harms from a reduction in local business activity and property values, and then assess how that will harm the tax bases of these localities will have long-term consequences for the people who live in these communities now and for generations to come. The DEIS is wholly inadequate in examining the socioeconomic consequences that are likely to occur along the EJ&E if this transaction is approved.

Please do not approve this acquisition.

Sincerely,



Joan Cioffi
1436 Frenchman's Bend Drive
Naperville, IL 60564