

8-22-08

To: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

This communication is to voice my objection to some of the problems that the proposed take over of the E J & E by Canadian National Railway may create for the Taxpayers of the United States of which I am one.

The draft EIS points out many of the concerns that I have relative to the proposed take over. These include the stated length of the monster trains that will cross our streets and pedestrian walkways, and nowhere do I see any limitations as to how many Trains, and when and what they will be carrying. Hazardous materials involved in a derailment could pose a dire risk to our citizens. This is a Safety and Health issue and must be addressed as is any threat to our citizen's well being when businesses are operated in the U.S.

The STB must take a position on how many of these monster Trains will be allowed per day, and for how long a Street or roadway can be blocked. In effect the safety of the operating equipment and the operating procedures need to be clearly defined and abided by. The report does not adequately cover additional overpasses or other means of avoiding blockage of Emergency Equipment, and the costs of providing them.

In other words we need some protection and guarantee that the safety and Health issues will be assured and in no way will the costs of this private enterprise operation be placed upon the Tax paying citizens or the Government of the United States of America.

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