

February 13, 2008

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

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball;

This letter is to express my concern regarding Canadian National Railway's (CN) acquisition plans of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern rail line (EJ&E), Docket # FD 35087.

I am a resident of an outlying Chicago suburb in the Barrington region. The EJ&E rail line currently operates through the suburb in which I live and my community would be negatively impacted by the dramatic increase in rail traffic that the proposed acquisition would impose. I am deeply concerned about public safety and the increase motor vehicle congestion.

Due to the amount of motor vehicle traffic in my community, a street-grade-level railroad crossing located in my suburb (on Ela Road just west of US Route 12) is heavily utilized and extremely dangerous. Countless passenger vehicles, school buses, commercial vehicles, and emergency vehicles traverse this street-grade-level EJ&E railroad crossing on a daily basis. A major increase in the number of trains using this line would not only increase congestion on both US Route 12 and Ela Road (both heavily traveled major roadways), but would also have a direct negative affect on my community's economy as whole due to increased travel time for school buses and commuters going to work, plus the increase in response time for emergency vehicles. In addition, the congestion would also increase the levels wasted fuel and exhaust fumes caused by vehicles idling at the rail road crossing.

I strongly oppose approval of this acquisition as it does not take into account the public safety of my community and/or neighboring communities, nor does it consider the increased congestion or wasted fuel and worsened level of exhaust fumes that will be caused by its approval. These are issues which I hope the Surface Transportation Board will take into consideration prior to making its decision on this matter.

Sincerely,



Diana B. Spatoulas
591 Peachtree Lane
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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