

September 17, 2008

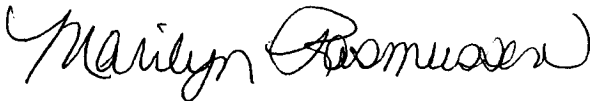
Phyllis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington DC 20423
Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

I am writing regarding the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway (STB Finance Docket No. 35087). The traffic congestion in Lake County Illinois is already at a totally unacceptable level. It routinely takes me 45 to 60 minutes to drive 12 miles to work. This drive is on roads with an average speed limit of 45 miles per hour and takes just over 20 minutes with no traffic, so you can see that during rush hour it already takes 2 to 3 times the normal drive time. If additional trains are added blocking the intersections, it will become an unbelievable nightmare. Unfortunately, the "rush hour" now constitutes most of the morning and late afternoon/early evening so adjusting one's working hours by an hour or so does not even help matters.

The current situation of so many cars simply sitting in traffic is already seriously affecting the environment and people's quality of life. I do not think that allowing additional train traffic should even be considered until Route 53 is extended (which has been delayed for over 10 years) and other local roads are widened to accommodate the population.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marilyn Rasmussen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marilyn" being more prominent than the last name "Rasmussen".

Marilyn Rasmussen
20 Wedgewood Drive
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047
847-914-5720