

Other Submissions

In order to process your filing, please fill out the following information. If you do not know the docket number, please leave it blank and we will fill it out for you.

Please fill out the following information to help us complete your filing:

Docket #: -35087 - -

Subject: *	Draft EIS
First Name: *	Raymond
Middle Name:	John
Last Name: *	Bodnar
Address: *	597 Aberdeen Road
City: *	Frankfort
State: *	IL
Zip Code: *	60423-
Email Address: *	bodnarrc@comcast.net
Group/Affiliation:	
Message:	

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

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35087
Proposed Acquisition of the EJ&E
Railroad by Canadian National

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

As a resident of the Village of Frankfort and a property owner in close proximity (597 Aberdeen Road) to the EJ & E Railroad, my wife, Carol, and I are formally **registering our opposition** to the impending acquisition of the EJ & E Railroad by Canadian National Railway.

Property Owner Rights Violated/Emergency Responses Restricted

The CN purchase of the EJ & E will have devastating negative impact on the property values along the railroad right of way. Increased vehicle congestion, noise and air pollution, coupled with health and safety risks will contribute to the **violation of our fundamental property owner rights**.

Quality of Life Diminished/Taxpayers Forced to Pay

Frankfort residents' quality of life will forever be diminished as a direct result of this transaction. In addition, taxpayers will be forced to pay for extensive rail related improvements. However, who will pay for the anticipated decline in property values? Will existing property owners be adequately compensated for property value losses?

North and South Frankfort

This action will essentially divide the Village of Frankfort into the North and South population quadrants. It brings a new meaning to "right side of the tracks." This separation of our community is totally unacceptable.

Solve An Old Congestion Problem By Creating A New Problem

The goal appears to be the reduction of intercity rail related congestion as well as the improvement of freight movement and efficiency within the rail system. As a result, at grade railroad crossings will be blocked extensively, transferring congestion problems to suburban communities instead of existing locations. Is this the answer?

Comprehensive Cost/Benefit Analysis?

Has the cost/benefit analysis adequately demonstrated that these proposed trade offs will meet the future development needs of the Chicago Southland? Additional analysis is required!

The Greater Good Served?

The "greater good" that may be achieved will be negated by the significant detrimental consequences of this misguided/ill-advised public policy initiative.

Perspective from an Urban Planner and Business Lobbyist

As an urban and regional planner and charter member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, I have concluded this controversial transportation proposal contains significant flaws and should be re-examined. As a lobbyist and advocate of business development for the Illinois Chamber of Commerce for thirty years, I testified at numerous regulatory and legislative hearings concerning economic development related issues. I remain unconvinced the proposed acquisition by Canadian National will serve the best interests of the Village of Frankfort and the region.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond J. Bodnar, AICP