

September 15, 2008

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

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

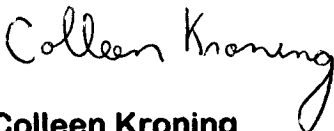
I am a citizen of New Lenox, a community that will be extremely negatively impacted by the purchase of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway (E.J. & E.) by the Canadian National Railroad (CN). I would like to express my concerns and hope that you will take them into consideration when you make your recommendation.

I understand that the proposed number of trains per day will dramatically increase from 6-8 per day to over 30 per day. The rail cars may extend beyond 3 miles in length. The delays at crossings could exceed 20 minutes. There will also be a great increase in the amounts of hazardous materials being hauled.

These things will greatly impact the quality of our everyday life and more importantly the safety of our community. New Lenox has 5 at grade crossings that will be affected. Please look closely at the proximity of these crossings to our schools. Please consider the noise, bus delays due to the length of the trains, risks associated with a hazardous materials spill, and the proximity of the trains to our school playgrounds- especially that of Spencer Trail Kindergarten. The impact of these trains to the response times of our police, fire and medical emergency vehicles will be extremely detrimental.

There are going to be so many problems for New Lenox and the surrounding communities if this purchase goes through that it's difficult to express them all in a letter. I hope I have touched the surface of the giant problems that this purchase will cause. Please consider them and vote "no" or at a minimum fight to make sure CN pays for all of the improvements that will be necessary to keep our community safe.

Sincerely,


Colleen Kroning