

Aug. 15, 2008

10182

Phillis Johnson-Ball

STB

295 E Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: STB Finance Docket No 35087

Dear Mr Johnson-Ball

Canadian Northern's acquisition of the E T & E railway line will change our lives and the bedroom community we live in severely. We specifically purchased a home in this tranquil suburban setting (as did most neighbors) to avoid the congestion & pollution so prevalent in the city. For many Americans, living in the quiet suburbs is the American dream. This is what so many people work hard for - to come home to their quiet refuge. Our great country is made up of many, small, safe communities where families ~~really~~ form the fabric of the neighborhoods. Canadian Northern's Plan to increase rail freight thru the heart of our community (and many others) will devastate the nature of these towns, create gridlock and make living in them unbearable! Freight trains increase from 5/day to 20+/yr. Incredible!!

Currently the rail traffic goes thru urban areas explicitly designated for usage such as this. Infrastructure is already in place and land usage is considered industrial and well suited for freight and all the problems that accompany it. Perhaps the JTB would find it a better solution for CN to improve their existing infrastructure. In other words, instead of doing a railway sprawl throughout the suburbs ~~and~~ have CN improve what they already have, even if it costs them more. They are, after all, a foreign corporation. American homeowners should not have to suffer to benefit this private enterprise. Collectively, we are the small town people that make America great. Don't, please, turn your back on us. Thank you so kindly,
Bob Ryan