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August 21, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
REF: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Gentlemen,

I need your help, as do hundreds of thousands of my fellow United States citizens who live in communities through which the EJ&E tracks pass. The proposal by the foreign owned CN Railroad does not pass the test of reasonability and good judgment. You, gentlemen, are our only hope if we are to stop this proposal that will have a devastating impact on the economy, safety and overall quality of life of the residents and businesses of these communities.

The president and chief executive officer of the Canadian National Railroad, E. Hunter Harrison, purchased full page ads in several newspapers in an attempt to convince us that the acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad by the CN is a good thing. Nothing could be further from the truth, unless of course you are employed by or own stock in the CN.

Mr. Harrison says CN plans to spend more than \$400 million to purchase and improve the EJ&E.

I say Improvements to a railroad, like beauty, are in the eye of the beholder. The improvements the CN plans will beef up and add tracks that will accommodate additional longer, heavier, noisier trains. These longer trains will block crossings more frequently and for extended periods of time, disrupting our daily lives, local commerce and emergency vehicles. These trains will carry more dangerous and toxic materials through our area, they will create additional noise and vibration.

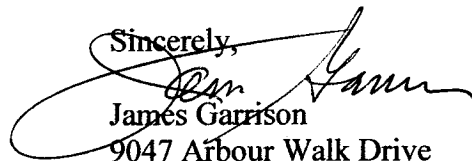
Mr. Harrison says that there is no basis for the claim that CN's plan might threaten Metra's vision for the STAR Line. He says, CN has pledged to work with Metra to explore all options for implementing the star Line.

I say, talk is cheap. And it will be worthless after the sale is complete. Tell us now, before the sale what CN will do for Metra and the commuters of the area. Make a commitment and make it a part of the sale.

Mr. Harrison says that Chicago is a critical rail hub for the nation, but it has become a bottleneck for companies seeking to ship goods across the country.

I say Mr. Harrison wants to penalize the citizens of Frankfort and more than 40 other communities so that his company, CN, can make more money without paying for the upgrades to crossings and overpasses that are required to accommodate the four fold increase in train traffic that will include both longer and heavier trains.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Garrison", is written over the typed name and address.

James Garrison

9047 Arbour Walk Drive
Frankfort, IL 60423