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## Indian Prairie Parents' Council

•Board of Education Offices • 780 Shoreline Drive, Aurora, IL 60504•  
630-375-3000

Indian Prairie  
Parents' Council  
PTA/PTSAs

### Elementary Schools

Brookdale  
Gwendolyn Brooks  
Wayne Buila  
Robert Clow  
Mary Lou Cowlshaw  
Fry  
Georgetown  
Peter M. Gombert  
V. Blanche Graham  
Oliver Julian Kendall  
Longwood  
McCarty  
Owen  
Patterson  
Danielle Joy Peterson  
Spring Brook  
Reba O. Steck  
May Watts  
Arlene Welch  
White Eagle  
Nancy Young

### Middle Schools

Clifford W. Crone  
Francis Granger  
Gordon Gregory  
Thayer J. Hill  
Thomas G. Scullen  
Jeffrey C. Still

### High Schools

Neuqua Valley  
Waubonsie Valley

Indian Prairie Special Needs  
Prairie Children Preschool

February 21, 2008

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

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

The Indian Prairie Parents' Council (IPPC) would like to express our opposition to the acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad by Canadian National Railway (CN). The IPPC is the umbrella organization representing all 31 PTAs and PTSAs in Indian Prairie School District 204, which serves areas of Aurora, Bolingbrook, Naperville, and Plainfield, IL.

The heart of the PTA mission is to be "a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child." We feel that we must speak out against this acquisition due to the safety concerns that would threaten the well-being of our children.

Train traffic is inherently dangerous to children. An increase from 15 to 42 trains a day would greatly magnify this danger. The fact that CN plans to run near track speed – 40 to 45 mph – further exacerbates the danger. The EJ&E tracks run through or immediately adjacent to the boundaries of seventeen of our schools. In addition, there are eight at-grade crossings on this line within our district.

In addition, the proposed increase in hazardous cargo puts our children at risk in the case of an accident or derailment.

Lastly, increased traffic over at-grade crossings hinders the ability of emergency vehicles and personnel to respond to emergency situations.

While Canadian National desires to improve the efficiency of their trains, we ask that you not allow them to jeopardize the well-being and safety of our children to accomplish that goal.

Sincerely,

Legislative Committee  
Indian Prairie Parents' Council

Surface Transportation Board  
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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