

10514

TWKaron

986 Bosworthfield Road, Barrington, IL 60010

Phone: 847.382.5304 • Fax: 847.382.1450 • email: criservices@sbcglobal.net

August 26, 2008

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

Dear Ms Johnson-Ball

Since I have had reasons for using paramedic services to the local hospital in recent times I have serious concerns regarding the pending sale of the of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway to Canadian National Railway(CN).

Personally, on one occasion my need to get to the hospital was life threatening. Had there been serious paramedic delay to my home or to the hospital, the delay would have been life threatening.

My other concerns for all other Barrington residents are safety (CN has a deplorable safety record), gridlock, reduced property and business values and reduced access to fire, police, paramedic services, the hospital and schools in the Village. Obviously, CN's principal interest in the EJ&E is to make money and not necessarily to help Chicago suburbs and Chicago get rid of railroad congestion. CN's short term plan will cause serious disruption in many suburban communities including mine, Barrington.

Although some suburban communities will have less railroad traffic, I have never heard complaints from them that railroad congestion is a problem. The residents of these communities knew that railroad congestion existed when they bought their homes and started their businesses, just as we knew that the railroad cut through our town when we bought our home in Barrington.

Hunter Harrison, CEO of CN, has gone on record stating that the bulk of the cost for upgrading the EJ&E line should come from our federal and state governments, which we as the taxpayers fund. Why would you allow a foreign corporation to buy a USA property so that the foreign corporation can make more money at our expense?

Would you let this happen where you live?

A concerned citizen,



Thomas W. Karon