

September 15, 2008

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

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

I BEG you: DO NOT approve the CN acquisition of EJ&E.

It will have a disastrous affect on my family and the communities around us. I attended the public meeting on August 27, 2008 in Barrington, IL. I agree with all the comments that were made that evening.

I live one block west of the EJ&E railroad tracks. This is my perspective:

The SAFETY of my family is the most important issue to me. Getting to my home or to the doctor or the hospital if I am (or the ambulance is) on the “wrong” side of the railroad tracks will be critically compromised. If there is a train accident, my family’s safety will be compromised. If there is an accident involving a hazardous materials spill my family’s safety will be compromised. My family’s water supply – we have an individual well – will be compromised. My family’s air quality will be compromised. The school buses will face additional risks that may compromise students. CN does NOT have a good safety record.

The NUISANCE factor will also come into play on a daily, no...hourly basis. The traffic delays to go anywhere in the local communities will be horrific. The noise level will make it impossible to have a conversation in my own back yard. I will not be able to have my windows open in the summer months.

The ECONOMIC impact to my family will be substantial. Our home, which we have owned for over 20 years, will plummet in property value overnight. The vibrations may cause costly home repairs. It will affect local businesses also as I will certainly change my habits to avoid at all costs having to cross the train tracks (if even possible.)

This proposed transaction will benefit a foreign company’s profits at a huge personal and financial expense to millions of local Americans. There will be no benefit to local Chicagoans other than those who would love to have the problem moved from their backyards to our backyards. This is not the way to solve the congested rail problems. Make CN find a real solution at their expense...not ours. Our local communities do not have the financial or managerial wherewithal to deal with the immense issues that this proposed transaction would involve.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW CN TO ACQUIRE EJ&E.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Ruskoski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'S' and 'R'.

Sandra Ruskoski
21865 Old Farm Road
Deer Park, IL 60010
847-438-2125
seruskoski@comcast.net

P.S. I tried to send this via email and am not sure it was received, therefore, I am sending this hard copy also.