

Phillis Jonson Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423
Ref: STB Finance Docket #35087

Ms Johnson Ball,

I am writing to oppose the proposed purchase of the EJ & E railway by Canadian National railway.

The purchase by CN will detrimentally affect the citizens of New Lenox and the surrounding areas due to the increased amount of rail traffic. The air quality will be markedly reduced due to the increased pollution by the drastic increase in the amount of trains which will pass through the area each day, thus leading to a negative impact on the surrounding environment.

Another area of concern is the emergency response vehicles and the lack of funds offered by CN for grading underpasses or overpasses which will be needed in five areas of New Lenox! Yes it is understood that CN has set aside a small amount of money for grading however as I have stated New Lenox alone has five crossing which need to be addressed and the paltry sum of money set aside by CN will not pay for the improvements needed leaving the citizens to foot the bill or suffer the consequences as we all know; local, state or federal government does not have additional money set aside for grading!

Traffic congestion will increase affecting school buses, emergency responders as well as everyday drivers.

Also, I understand that a study has been done projecting the outcome for only five years. What is the affect on the surrounding areas beyond the five years studied? If the rail purchase is approved is CN going away in five years? The allowance of a short term study of the effects of such an extreme increase in rail traffic is a disservice the people who live and work in this area.

I implore you not to approve the sale of EJ & E railway to Canadian National Railway.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela Battista". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Pamela" and last name "Battista" clearly distinguishable.

Pamela Battista