

16065

September 21, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
STB Finance Docket No. 35087
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: The CN acquisition of the EJ & E Rail Line

I am writing to you because I am opposed to the acquisition of the EJ & E Rail Line. I currently live at 6507 Denali Ridge Drive in Plainfield, IL. My house is situated approximately one block away from the rail road tracks. Currently we have an average of around 16 trains running on the tracks per day. Having the train tracks so close causes many inconveniences. For example, the train horns blaring when they are going through the train crossings, starting in the early morning. Even when noise isn't an issue, from having the train tracks so close, it literally shakes our bed and wakes my family up during the night. At the current rate of trains per day, this is an annoyance, but something we have to live with. With the proposed acquisition, we would be experiencing three times the amount of train traffic per day.

More concerning to me is the fact that our subdivision only has one way in and out accessed through Theodore Street. The rail road tracks cut across Theodore Street. I am concerned about what this might mean for emergency response time. The local hospitals are all east of the rail road tracks on Theodore and a trip to the hospital would mean a significant detour should there be a train going through. Also, the elementary school that all the children in my subdivision attend is also east of the rail road tracks. There is already a traffic jam in the morning because of an earlier train when buses are trying to get the children to school. Another of my fears with the potential for increased train activity, is the neighborhood children who try to cut across the train tracks to get to the neighboring subdivision. My neighborhood is also not alone with the limited access into and out of the subdivisions. Almost all of the new subdivisions on Theodore street west of the rail road tracks have only one way to access entering and leaving, so this would impact a tremendous amount of people.

I implore you to please not let this acquisition happen. The increase in train activity would make us virtual prisoners to the train schedule and could seriously hamper the response time of emergency personnel.

Sincerely,



Myra Murphy
6507 Denali Ridge Dr.
Plainfield, IL 60586