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Surface Transportation Board
CM-EJ&EIS - FD-35087

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January 25, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

My concerns over **Finance Docket No. 35087**, CN's acquisition of **IND** rail lines, planned construction and increased operations in the suburbs west and south of Chicago include the following:

- **Construction impacts** including visual quality, construction traffic and staging areas, water quality, hazardous materials and noise and vibration.
- **Noise and Vibration** – There are sensitive receptors immediately adjacent to the right of way including hospitals, schools and residences. Of particular concern is the Peterson Elementary School near 103rd street in South Naperville.
- **Visual Impacts** – new visual elements will be introduced including additional freight vehicles as well as sound and retaining walls.
- **Traffic** – In the Aurora / South Naperville / Plainfield area, if we assume an additional 25 freight trains with each taking 5 minutes to pass, this would account for more than 2 hours wait time, in a 24 hour period, at crossings.
- **Safety** – The increased rail traffic will have many negative safety impacts including:
 - Increase in at-grade crossing accident probability.
 - Increase in transport of hazardous materials and potential for derailment.

I understand that the board will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the acquisition; I look forward to the opportunity to review this document.

Sincerely,



cc: Anne K. Quinlan, Esq., Acting Secretary