

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

January 18, 2008

Mrs. Phillis Johnson-Ball:

I am writing in grave opposition to the purchase of the Elgin Joliet & Eastern railroad tracks by Canadian National Railway Corp (STB Finance Docket No. 35087).

I live only feet away from these tracks, in the Shorely Woods community of Barrington, IL. I certainly did not take the decision to purchase a condo here lightly. For an entire month prior to the purchase, I spent my days off of work observing railroad traffic patterns and load. Only after this extensive research did I decide that the amount of railroad traffic is currently reasonable. The convenience of residing in the charming village of Barrington was worth living in such close proximity to the tracks.

That said, I certainly did not sign up as a neighbor to a rail yard, with a whopping 25 trains constantly passing only feet away daily, literally, in my backyard! The Canadian nationals will run down my neighborhood, drop my property value, and ruin the character of lovely Barrington! I NEVER would have bought my condo here with that amount of traffic in mind! Others surely feel the same way, given the outpouring of support by the Barrington coalition that I saw when I attended the STB scoping meeting on January 9th.

Further, my parents own two businesses in the neighboring town of Fox River Grove. With the added traffic congestion, their livelihood is sure to suffer. None of us signed up as residents in an industrial park!

I respectfully ask that you oppose the acquisition of these tracks. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Pamela Skoubis, Ph.D.

Pamela Skoubis, Ph.D.
510 Shorely Dr. #102
Barrington, IL 60010

CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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