

Johnson-Ball

January 30, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Mr. Charles D. Nottingham
395 E. Street S.W.
Washington D.C. 20423-0001

FD 35087

Mr. Nottingham:

I am a resident of Aurora, IL and would like you to know my thoughts regarding EJ&E sale to Canadian National. It's my understanding that the new potential owners, CN, is proposing to increase the rail traffic on this line. Fortunately my home is far enough away to not be impacted by the additional noise that would be created due to the increased traffic. My concern is the traffic situation that will be created with the increased train activity. The nearest over/underpasses to the rail line are several miles north of the area. Ogden Ave which is a major east-west artery, currently has crossing gates and even with the relatively light rail traffic we have now can be backed up for 1 miles when a train passes. That fact that this is a grade crossing on a major street should also alert you to the increase of potential train and auto collisions. It was also brought to my attention that this sale would also likely scrap the proposed North-South Metra commuter rail project. I really don't see how anyone in their right mind could allow this to happen, but if it does, you'd better begin writing your explanation as to why you allowed increased freight rail traffic causing traffic back ups, noise, lower property values and additionally derailed the proposed commuter rail project. The bottom line is that an increase in rail traffic through any residential area is not good for anyone in the area and I hope you take this letter into consideration.

Thank You

Brian Bustard
2518 Lundquist Dr.
Aurora, IL 60503

Cc: Senator Durbin, Senator Obama

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