

12702

Catherine B. Williams
1089 Memory Lane
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

September 2, 2008

Ms. Phyllis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

I am deeply concerned over the proposed acquisition of the E, J and E Railroad (EJE) by the Canadian National Railroad (CNRR) which will increase the freight traffic through Lake Zurich by six-fold and double the length of the current freight trains. Please support H.R. 6707 which requires the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to consider the impact of railroad transactions on local communities.

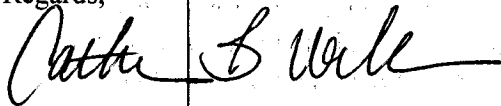
As a resident of Lake Zurich, my family and community will be impacted by the CNRR in the following ways.

- 1) Noise levels and vibrations from the trains will increase dramatically in residential neighborhoods and school properties.
- 2) It will negatively impact our property values and will disrupt local business and future business development plans.
- 3) The delays will negatively impact public, vehicular and pedestrian safety.
- 4) Delays will increase emergency response times for potential life threatening situations.
- 5) School district buses cross at-grade crossings 233 times per day. There will be a direct impact on student transportation, timing and safety.
- 6) Costs and mitigation measures have been ignored by CNRR and will become a burden upon home and business owners of Lake Zurich.

The potential acquisition has already cost the Village of Lake Zurich a project that would have contributed \$825,000 and added 45 new jobs. The overall impact will be a devaluation of our land and property and diminish our quality of life and character of our town.

We need to do everything possible to prevent the acquisition of the EJE by the CNRR.

Regards,



Catherine B. Williams
cwilliams0727@gmail.com