

15994

Diane A. Welter
29W260 Iroquois Ct. N
Warrenville, IL 60555

September 11, 2008

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

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

As a resident of the City of Warrenville for 10 years, I've been paying close attention to the proposed purchase of the EJ&E Railroad by Canadian National (CN). I know that the City of Warrenville has met with CN representatives three times and has conveyed resident concerns, particularly by those living so close to the tracks. It is my understanding, that there will be a significant increase in train traffic (over 70%) and hazardous waste traveling through our community.

The potential environmental impacts related to the transportation of hazardous materials are of great concern. Like myself, there are numerous residents located immediately adjacent to the EJ&E Railroad line with an elementary school and park located less than a mile away. These households have also experienced years of vibrations from existing train traffic. With such a proposed increase, how is vibration going to be mitigated?

My final concern is about the City's ongoing efforts towards establishing a quiet zone. Staff and elected officials have dedicated approximately three years towards this goal. Will this transaction force the City to start at the beginning of this long process? Residents along the EJ&E have patiently waited for the quiet zone to be established for several years.

It is because of my concerns about safety and quality of life that I oppose this transaction. I hope the Surface Transportation Board considers the sever impacts on local residents when evaluating this transaction. Should you require further information, please feel free to contact me at 630/836-0883.

Sincerely,



Diane A. Welter

Copy: Judy Biggert, U.S. Representative, 6262 S. Rt. 83., St. 305, Willowbrook, IL 60527
Bill Foster, U.S. Representative, 27 N. River St., Batavia, IL 60510