

Phyllis Johnson-Ball
STB Finance Docket No. 35087
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001

September 15, 2008

To the Section of Environmental Analysis and to the Surface Transportation Board:

I strongly urge you to not approve Canadian National's proposal to make the EJ&E line a "rail superhighway." This action only relocates environmental threats to communities that have little or no infrastructure to safely co-exist with 20-plus trains per day. We have no under-or overpasses to ensure critical medical care is available for critically ill or injured Barrington area residents.

As a phlebotomist in the laboratory at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital, I have participated in traumas where the ability to treat quickly saved not just the patient's limb (a leg crushed in a construction accident) but also saved their life (a resident suffering a heart attack). As a member of the community, I am very concerned at how little the federal environmental impact statement analyzed access to our emergency medical facility. Re-routing patients to other facilities in the area will result in delayed treatment, poor outcomes and possible death for these critically ill or injured residents. This is not the answer.

I urge the board not to approve the proposed action in its current form, without insisting on substantive mitigation and infrastructure investment, and just as importantly, who and how it will be funded and how soon it can be constructed.

Very Sincerely,

Beth Ann Beasley
Illinois Ambulatory Training Lead, ACL Laboratories, Advocate Health Care
Home address: 460 North Main Street, Unit N406, Wauconda, IL 60084 .
Home 847.487.7967, Work 847.349.7504