

September 10, 2008

The Honorable Phillis Johnson-Ball
STB Finance Docket No 35087
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

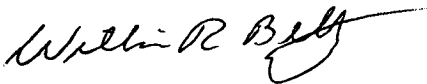
I am a resident of the Village of Frankfort, IL concerned about the Draft EIS (Docket No 35087) for the proposed Canadian National Railway Company's acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway. I am writing to express these concerns for increase of noise, vibration, pollution, emergency vehicle delays, traffic delays and economic impact this increased rail traffic has on the Village Frankfort.

I understand that the EJ&E tracks in Frankfort have not received major repairs in over 25 years. That's one reason the experienced engineers go so slowly through Frankfort. ~~Now the Canadian National is proposing to~~ increase the number of trains by over 400% and they state that they will run trains through our community at 45 miles per hour on these old tracks. I wonder if the authors of your Draft Environmental Impact Statement have read the report to the Canadian House of Commons from the Standing Committee on Transport that severely criticizes the safety record of the Canadian National Railway. Perhaps the most alarming comment in the report is that by 2008, the CN had only implemented one out of the five safety measures it was ordered to implement by the Canadian government back in 2001. If they won't implement safety measures for their own government, why should we believe that they will show a concern for safety when operating in the United States? In fact Canadian National employees are quoted in the report as saying that they work in a "culture of fear," which affects safety.

Please make sure that the final Environmental Impact Study takes the safety record of the CN into consideration. We are counting on you to help avoid a tragedy in our community for the Public Safety issues due to this increase rail traffic represents. I cross these tracks on a regular basis and I can't believe that your report does not even seem to touch on this issue of how pedestrians, bicycles and automobiles will be impacted by this proposal

Please be sure increase of noise, vibration, pollution, emergency vehicle delays, traffic delays and economic impact are corrected in your final report. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Bill Beltz