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9/13/08

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N.E.C.
MANAGEMENT
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The Honorable Anne K. Quinlan, Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-001

RE: Docket # 35087

Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation -Control- EJ & E West
Company

Dear Secretary Quinlan:

I am a resident of Frankfort, Illinois who will be impacted by the CN purchase of EJ&E Railroad. I am writing to express my concerns in regards to the impact on emergency vehicle delays in this purchase.

You may not know it, but in my neighborhood in Frankfort, the nearest fire station is on the north side of the tracks and I live on the south side. Ambulances and other emergency vehicles must cross the tracks on a regular basis. With only six trains a day, there is hardly ever an issue, but with twenty-eight trains a day, this is going to be a lot bigger issue than your Draft Environmental Impact Statement seems to make. If nothing else, you should reconsider this issue in your final EIS and I hope you make the CN build new fire stations all along the tracks.

I have read the draft Environmental Impact Statement concerning the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway by the Canadian National Railway. The study appears to be based on traffic projections in 2015. I intend to live in this area much longer than that. What are we going to do in 2030? That's when the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission estimates Frankfort will have a population of 55,000. Your study should be based on these much higher population numbers otherwise the study is flawed from the beginning.

Please make sure that the final Environmental Impact Study takes the concerns of emergency vehicle delays into consideration. We are counting on you to help avoid a tragedy in our community.

Respectfully,