

Patricia A. Schneck

805 Regent St.
New Lenox, IL 60451
815-485-7193
trish0550@hotmail.com

September 19, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

An issue very important to me and to my neighbors has come to my attention. Our town of New Lenox, Illinois is a family orientated, friendly, patriotic, growing community with historical roots in farming, that was also a religious retreat for many families in the northern Illinois area for many years.

This is one of those places that families with children choose to move to and buy or build homes so their children can benefit from the good schools, safe neighborhoods, local activities, friendly neighbors, and a small government that is responsive to the community. This is a town where kids actually go out and play. They ride their bikes up and down the streets. Their Mom's call them in for supper at the end of the day. They don't need to make arrangements for "play-dates" with other parents or nannies!

I believe that by allowing the sale of the EJ&E railway to the Canadian National Railway with the expected exponential increase in railway traffic, and hazardous materials to be transported will dramatically erode our healthy way of life here in New Lenox.

Our two main roads would be tied up in gridlock. This will inadvertently push traffic onto more and more side roads and neighborhood side streets, causing a immediate danger to children. Children and adults will also be at a much higher risk for accidents whenever they need to cross these railroad tracks simply due to the projected near constant running of this train traffic. Local businesses, many of which are small businesses will no doubt be negatively impacted by traffic jams, with potential customers avoiding the

central town area.

In addition to these problems, I suspect we will be footing the bill for all necessary roadwork, over/underpasses, and safety barriers to be built to help remediate as much of the mess as possible, after the fact.

I ask you, why on earth should we in the New Lenox area be forced to accept this nasty deal?

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Schneck
Patricia A. Schneck