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September 21, 2008

Ms. Phyllis Johnson-Ball
c/o STB Finance Docket NO. 35087
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Canadian National Railway's acquisition of EJ & E Railway

Dear Ms. Johnson-Bell:

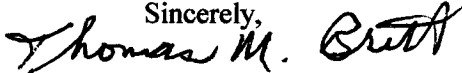
Attached please find a copy of a letter I wrote to Charles D. Nottingham, of the STB indicating my disapproval of the attempted acquisition of the EJ & E Railway by CN.

I would ask that the STB take into consideration the negative impact on the quality of life that this acquisition will have on the dozens of communities and thousands of homeowners that currently live along these tracks if it is allowed to go through, and decided to deny CN's request. To increase the rail traffic on this line to up to 28 additional trains a day will change the entire dynamics of the affected areas making them a less desirable place to live which in turn will negatively impact our home values even greater than the current housing crises has.

To impose this sentence on our communities because the STB may see no significant Environmental Impact on the area ignores the impact our quality of life. Please don't make this decision with blinders on. I don't understand why the impact on the human environment (i.e. significant traffic delays, reduced response time for emergency services, the transportation of potentially hazardous materials, noise, increase taxes, reduced property values, etc.) are not as or more important that the effects on the natural environment.

I cannot stress enough how damaging both economically and emotionally I believe that the increase track usage will be to our community and the others in which the tracks now pass. I would ask that Board members put themselves in our shoes and ask yourselves, would you be in favor of a similar increasing the usage of a railway line in your community; along tracks that are only a couple hundred feet from your residence? I believe that I understand the benefits being touted by CN in favor of the acquisition, but in my opinion it is immoral to impose the negative impact which you know such increase usage will have on a community merely to relieve a similar problem that has existed elsewhere.

Again, for the people who will be impacted by your decision most and perhaps have the least to say about it, I would ask that you deny the proposed acquisition.

Sincerely,


Thomas M. Britt and Michele J. Britt