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18 Norbert Drive
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047-9145

August 29, 2008

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Phills Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear M. Johnson-Ball:

It is unfathomable that our great country would even consider allowing a foreign corporation to purchase the EJ&E Railroad because of the many towns and their residences that would suffer so much from the consequences.

Canadian National's ~~sole and~~ selfish reason for this purchase is to utilize the shortest route from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico for export.

We live in Hawthorn Woods, IL, USA, and would be cut off from our fire and rescue squad protection by the increased number and length of these trains. We have needed the Rescue Squad three times and couldn't believe how quickly they arrived. The reverse is also true--could they get to the hospital quickly or would they have to wait for a train to pass?

A five minute wait for our fire department to arrive would be devastating if our home was burning. This would also increase the cost of our house insurance.

Our traffic is very congested during rush hours. The extra cost of gasoline used while waiting for a train to pass would add to an already huge burden costwise for everyone.

We paid a premium price to live in a tranquil, rural atmosphere. If this is approved we will have noise, traffic backups and air pollution. This would lower our property values--and our home is our biggest investment.

Many school buses must use the roads involved and many children walk to school. PLEASE, do not increase our accident rates!

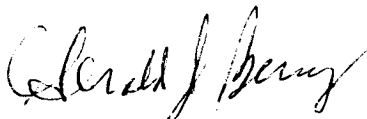
SOLUTION

Perhaps CN should continue using the west coast ports as they are now--we see no reason why we should suffer to increase a foreign corporation's profit margin.

They could also build their own tracks perhaps in the rural Dakotas or in rural Iowa. It is ridiculous to route all these trains owned by a foreign company through such a congested area.

The 30 million they have offered wouldn't even build 1 overpass let alone the number needed for all the crossings.

PLEASE LISTEN TO US--WHY MUST A FOREIGN COMPANY HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE CONGESTED CHICAGO AREA. LET THEM BUILD AND PAY FOR THEIR OWN TRACKS IN AN ISOLATED AREA OR CONTINUE TO USE THE WEST COAST PORTS.


Gerald J. Berrong


Sandra R. Berrong