

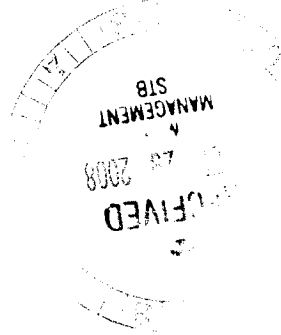
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WEST CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

September 22, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Attention: Anne Quinlan, Acting Secretary
Environmental Filing
STB Finance Docket No. 35087



RE: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation-Control—
EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket No. 35087)

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

As president of the West Chicago Public Library District Board of Library Trustees, I would like to voice my concern and opposition to the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad by Canadian National.

The West Chicago Public Library District, serving more than 27,000 residents is within 200 yards of a grade crossing. Increased train traffic will negatively affect staff reporting to work and patrons who want to use the library either walking or by motor vehicle. The main entrance to the library becomes totally inaccessible each time the grade crossing is blocked for more than 5 minutes. Further, in 2004, the library spent more than \$10,000 to stabilize its shelving as a result of then current train traffic compromising the safety of shelving units housing the 80,000 volumes which represents our book collection. Our 27,000 square foot building was built in 1995. The shelving was beginning to bend, sway and dislodge from the walls due to vibrations caused by train traffic through the years. If train volume increases, these conditions will only get worse.

Additionally, it is projected that train lengths will be much longer than current EJ&E train lengths and hazardous materials' traffic in West Chicago, north of the Union Pacific tracks would increase from the current 21 carloads per year to 265 carloads per year and 31 carloads per year to 301 carloads per year for the line south of the Union Pacific track. Given these staggering statistics, the negative impact to public health, safety and quality of life would be significant. Therefore, I ask you to carefully consider all the ramifications such an acquisition poses and vote against this proposal.

Sincerely,

President
Board of Library Trustees
West Chicago Public Library District

cc: Representative Bill Foster
27 North River Street
Batavia, IL 60510