

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

I am writing to express my opposition to the prospective acquisition of the EJ&E line by Canadian National Railway. I strongly feel that the negative impact this proposed transaction will have on our local communities is immense. The increased number of longer and faster freight trains running through our neighborhoods will result in:

- More accidents and deaths along the rail line
- A significant increase in automobile traffic gridlock at rail crossings and increased travel times
- Elevated pollution and noise levels
- Dangerously longer response times of our Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Teams
- Disruption and/or closure of local business activities
- Adverse impact on our property values

Additionally, recent studies by RTA have revealed that a potential overcrowding of the EJ&E lines will also interfere with commuter METRA train lines affecting our ability to get to and from our workplaces in a timely manner.

It is already very difficult to commute from our home on the northwest side of Plainfield to the nearby expressways due to heavy traffic congestion in downtown Plainfield as well as the existing railway traffic that divides the village with every passing train. The additional railway congestion will only add to unbearable delays. Unfortunately, the acquisition of the EJ&E line by Canadian National Railway would force us to strongly consider relocating outside of Plainfield. I am certain countless others in the community feel the same way.

Please do not let us be "railroaded" by Canadian National. We are hopeful that you will make the decision to vote against this acquisition and to help keep our communities safe for us and for future generations.

Respectfully yours,



Dan and Andrea Smith