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July 16, 2008

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation – Control –
EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket 35087)

Dear Ms. Rutson:

As a resident of the Village of Bartlett, IL, I have become aware that the Canadian National Railway Company (CN) is proposing to purchase the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E). As part of this transaction, CN is proposing to increase the number of freight trains traveling through Bartlett daily on the EJ&E tracks by over 300%. Although, I do appreciate that the Surface Transportation Board is looking into the matter, I have some deep concerns about this transaction as it will have an effect on myself, my neighbors and the rest of the community.

I am very concerned about the effect this transaction would have on emergency vehicles, as additional train traffic would increase their response times. This transaction also poses a major threat to the environment, not the least of which would be a significant increase in hazardous waste traveling through Bartlett. It has also come to my attention that CN's purchase of the EJ&E could possibly end the development of the proposed Metra STAR line, which would provide residents in Bartlett and throughout the Chicagoland area an alternative to driving, especially when the cost of gas is so high. Traffic congestion caused by trains blocking crossings will also lead to drivers wasting gas as their engines idle for many minutes waiting for the train to pass. Finally, we have to think about the emergency vehicles and how important timing can be to saving a life, as seconds can be the difference between life and death.

At this time, I am asking the Surface Transportation Board to deny CN's proposal to purchase the EJ&E, as this matter must be reviewed at length in order to better understand the effect it will have on our community as well as the many other communities along the EJ&E. I feel as though I should have a say as to what goes on in my community and I appreciate your taking the time to read my letter. I would ask the STB to please think about the residents that will be affected by this purchase as well as the safety of the community.

Sincerely,

Kelly Jones
377 Snow Drive CA.
Bartlett, IL 60103