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City of Elgin
60120

Mayor
Ed Schock

Council Members

Juan Figueroa
Robert Gilliam
David J. Kaptain
Michael Powers
F. John Steffen
John Walters

City Manager
Olufemi Folarin

February 8, 2008

Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Phillis Johnson-Ball
Environmental Filing STB Finance Docket No. 35087
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Proposed CN Railway Acquisition of EJ&E Railway

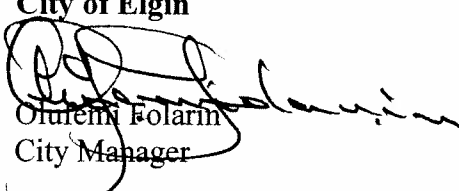
Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments regarding the proposed CN Railway Acquisition of the EJ&E Railway. The City of Elgin recently met with representatives of the CN Railway where we expressed our concern about the effect the acquisition may have on the traffic congestion and noise pollution in our community. The increase in rail usage from four to 20 trains is bound to result in traffic being held up for considerable lengths of time in two intersections in our community. In addition, the increased rail usage will impact our community by the increase of noise pollution at night as both of the effected intersections are near residential developments.

The City is also concerned how the proposed acquisition will effect the current discussions of having the Blue Line and Star Line railways extended to the City of Elgin. We would like to ensure that the acquisition plans do not jeopardize the negotiations and discussions of the extension of these lines through to our community as these links are highly desirable and would be beneficial to the City of Elgin.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to be part of the Environmental Impact Statement process.

Sincerely,
City of Elgin


Olufemi Folarin
City Manager

cc: Mayor Ed Schock

Surface Transportation Board
CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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