

September 22, 2008

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. My family and I live in Lake Zurich. The EJ&E train tracks run through at least two main and congested road ways, as well as other roads in town. The increased number of longer and faster freight trains running through our neighborhoods will result in:

- More accidents and deaths along the rail line. Our High School and one of our elementary schools are adjacent to the tracks.
- An increase in automobile traffic gridlock at rail crossings. Lake Zurich already experiences times of traffic gridlock throughout the day, especially in the morning trying to get the kids to school.
- 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. Lake Zurich has already lost the opportunity of growth as one developer has already ended negotiations to build a senior housing in our town because of this potential sale.
- Adverse impact on our property values. Lake Zurich has already lost the opportunity of growth as one developer has already ended negotiations to build a senior housing in our town because of this potential sale.

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 currently takes approximately 10 or more minutes for an EJ&E freight train to get through each of our rail road crossings. If 24 trains a day come through our town it would be hard to imagine the devastating effect. At least 16% of the time our roads in & out of Lake Zurich would be impassable.

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,

Joseph H. Dunsey
11 CHURCH ST.
LAKE ZURICH, IL 60047