

14289

Annette Kopec
21355 Ginger Lane
Frankfort, IL 60423

September 16, 2008

Phillis Johnson- Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20423
Ref: STB Finance Docket #35087

Dear Phillis Johnson-Ball,

Please be advised that if this EJ & J acquisition becomes a reality, the surrounding southern communities in Illinois will be so adversely affected that our town of Frankfort will turn into a Mecca of rails with screeching, screaming noise and the community will not thrive as it is just starting to. We have just completed building a third high school (Lincoln way North) and have broken ground on a fourth (Lincoln way South). Our population consists of mostly young, professionals with families who own their own homes. Our community is a very desirable place to live and we continue to experience growth. Why would YOU in Washington want to see this stop? Why would YOU in Washington want to jeopardize the well being of our town? I moved from Chicago (4322 S. Rockwell St.) to get away from the trains, traffic, and violence that big cities like Chicago experience. Why do I have to think about relocating my family most likely out of state to be able to raise my children in a healthy environment? I don't want to worry that I cannot get to my child in school in case of an emergency only to have to be stopped by a train(s) that will hinder my swiftness to get to them. Would you want to hear 36 trains a day where you live? Well, we sure don't either. What about the loads these trains will be carrying. What are they going to consist of? Do you want to be responsible for KILLING innocent people who are trying to make a good home to our children, with a chemical explosion from a train derailment? Leave this train traffic to BIG cities. These people know when they move to big cities that trains are expected. We did not move here to become a town of TRAINS, TRAINS and more TRAINS.

PLEASE. PLEASE, DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN! IT'S YOU WHO CAN DECIDE TO STOP THIS ACQUISITION, SO STOP IT NOW, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

Annette Kopec

