

September 19, 2008

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

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 35087
Proposed Acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad by Canadian National

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

As a resident of Frankfort, IL, I am formally **opposing** the proposed Canadian National Railway acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad.

I am concerned about the environmental impact this acquisition would have on our town. We have 3 schools and nine subdivisions that are in close proximity to the tracks. I have three grandchildren who would have to cross these tracks on a bus every day. With 28 trains coming through here daily, air pollution from the trains and pollution from the vehicles waiting to cross the tracks would be a major problem. Have you ever sat in back of a truck or bus waiting for a train to pass? The windows have to be rolled up and the air turned off to keep from being asphyxiated by the fumes.

The tracks through Frankfort have not had major repairs for over twenty years. Running trains through here at 45 miles per hour would be a prescription for disaster. And if the trains ran slower, the railroad crossings would be impassable for an even longer time. The CN has a very poor safety record. It failed to implement safety measures mandated by the government of Canada. What should make us think anything would be any different here? Please make sure that their poor safety record is addressed in the final Environmental Impact Study.

In closing, I would like to know why we are allowing a foreign railroad to barrel through our suburban communities and small towns, negatively impacting the lives of our citizens. We have everything to lose and nothing to gain if this acquisition is allowed.

Sincerely,
Barbara Cole
Barbara Cole