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September 23, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

I am writing to ask the Surface Transportation Board to completely REJECT the proposed acquisition of the Elgin Joliet & Eastern Railway (EJ&E) by Canadian National (CN). The STB's DEIS is flawed and incomplete. There is absolutely nothing economically advantageous about this acquisition except to raise CN's profits.

There is only one overpass located in Frankfort, Illinois on Route 45. This overpass is structurally compromised. As you can see from the picture below, when there is a heavy rain, the overpass is closed due to flooding. If a two-mile CN train is sitting across the tracks, blocking grade crossings and the overpass is flooded, there is no way for emergency vehicles to get to their destinations. You would be putting all of Frankfort's residents' lives in jeopardy.

I respectfully ask that the Board reject this acquisition in its entirety.

Sincerely,



Donna M. Tarvid

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THE FRANKFORT NEWS-TRIBUNE



FRANKFORT FELT THE AFTER AFFECT of hurricane like this weekend in the form of heavy rains. Route 45 was completely closed down south of Nebraska Street by the Frankfort Police Department, due to high standing water.

—photo by Bruce Samborski
gapphoto.fotki.com