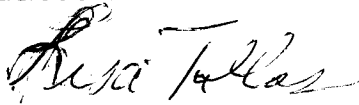


September 9, 2008

Dear Phillis Johnson-Ball

I am writing to oppose the sale of the EJ & E railroad to Canadian National railroad. I am concerned as well as many residents along this route about the increased rail traffic and safety issues it presents. The rail line involved runs east/ west crossing and possibly blocking all north/south roads. This would increase rail traffic in our town significantly to the point of trains running every 51 minutes, 24 hours a day. These trains, we are told, are going to be even longer 10,000 feet or more, that's a long train, almost two miles. And we know a train that long won't be moving to fast. The tracks that the trains would run cut our town of New Lenox in half cutting off fire and police from responding because their stations are all located on the north side of the tracks. There are no viaducts that responders could even use. Also, the track runs only blocks from several schools, senior living, assisted living and mind care facilities. If there was an accident or derailment and a swift evacuation was needed, could this be accomplished in a timely way with so many students and elderly to rescue? And what about the folks on the south side of the tracks. If the tracks are blocked by a derailment responders can't respond because they are block by the train.

I know that many items are shipped by rail and trains have to travel on tracks through towns. These trains are currently traveling some where now and maybe the increase can be share more with other rails that don't pose such new disruptions and safety issues. Many of these areas were built around these busy tracks and thought out during their planning stage, not just added to areas that never saw this coming during the planning of their communities. Canadian National should be held more responsible, required to build viaducts, have detailed safety plans in place before allowed to proceed at running all of these trains. They ultimately will be the winners reaping the profits that these trains bring in the increase in commerce. Let's do the American tax payers right an save them from the burden that this will cost all of us when we have to flip the bill to pay to fix this. Thanks for your consideration.



Lisa Tullos