

Honorable Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423
Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

September 26, 2008

Subject: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation -
Control-EJ & E West Company acquisition

Dear Honorable Phillis Johnson-Ball:

This letter is written to address the proposed acquisition of the EJ&E Railway by the Canadian National Railway. As proposed, an increase in trains from six to 28 per day would greatly decrease our property value. When purchasing our home 38 years ago the number of trains per day was tolerable. If this purchase is completed we will now be faced with many negative impacts. I would like to ask for your considerations in preventing this acquisition for this reason, as well as the many others that have been presented before your Board.

We live 100 feet from these tracks which would be a great risk to us based on health issues and possible accidents that could occur, as well as a negative effect on the wooded area we live in. This purchase does not solve a related transportation problem by moving it from one area to another, it just moves it. Why should we as U.S. taxpayers subsidize this exceptionally profitable *foreign* railroad that reported profits of more than \$2 billion dollars last year on revenues of \$8 Billion?

I would like to ask that you seriously please consider my concerns and that your decisions are made to address them. I thank you for understanding my concerns and that proper steps are taken to deny this acquisition.

Sincerely yours,



Shirley Vander Velde
545 Aberdeen Road
Frankfort, IL 60423