

September 28, 2008

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

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Mrs. Johnson-Ball

This letter is to let you know my opposition to the proposed sale of the E. J. & E. rail line to the Canadian National Railroad. I live in Frankfort, IL and feel that if the E. J. & E. is sold to Canadian National, Frankfort and the surrounding areas will be negatively impacted.

There are four main concerns I'd like to highlight:

- Transportation problems
- Infrastructure costs
- Property values
- Future of the area

With the Canadian National proposed 400% increase in rail traffic and trains up to two miles long, getting around in Frankfort, New Lenox, Richton Park, Matteson and other communities which the line run through will become increasingly difficult. Police cars, fire trucks, ambulances, and school buses will all be impacted. Commuter rail lines that cross the E, J, & E line will be adversely affected.

To relieve traffic congestion, villages and towns having the E. J. & E. line running through them will be forced to make infrastructure improvements. These improvements likely will be overpasses or underpasses on the major roads through the towns. In Frankfort, Harlem Avenue is a candidate for such an infrastructure improvement. According to the Surface Transportation Board's initial study, funding for infrastructure improvements will mostly fall on the villages and towns. In Frankfort, taxes are already very high due to the limited business and commercial development in the village. There are roads, especially Lincoln Highway that needs widening. The Park District needs to improve their facilities for the families in Frankfort. Funding from the federal and state governments is slow to meet the growing needs of Frankfort. If the Canadian National railroad is allowed to purchase the E. J. & E. line, they should pay for the infrastructure costs to relieve the congestion that a 400% increase in train traffic will create.

With increased congestion, noise and taxes, Frankfort will become a less inviting place to live. Along with the negative impact to the quality of life in Frankfort, property values will also suffer. So, the residents of Frankfort, especially those living close to the track, will suffer economic hardship due to increased taxes and decreased property values,

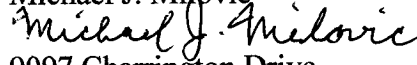
while the Canadian National railroad company can run more trains, more efficiently through the United States increasing profits for their managers and stockholders.

The Canadian National purchase of the E. J. & E. will have a negative impact on growth of the entire Southwest Chicago Suburban area. The E. J. & E. line has been discussed as a potential line for commuter rail service to the Western and Northwestern suburban areas. If Canadian National is running 24, two mile trains, a commuter line won't be a feasible option. Development of areas south of the E. J. & E. line will slow as transportation to the north, especially to the City of Chicago, will become more difficult.

Many of the problems stated can be overcome if enough money is available. However, my fear is that the residents and businesses in the towns and villages along the E. J. & E. line will be asked to pay while Canadian National will prosper and improve its profitability.

Please do not approve the sale of E. J. & E. to Canadian National, or at least, make Canadian National provide funding to resolve the problems their purchase of the E. J. & E. will create.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Milovic

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Frankfort, IL