

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

The acceleration and continuing plans of CN and Grand Trunk Corp. to acquire and operate trains over the EJ&E railroad in light of the compelling concerns/impact on the many communities affected along the rail line is completely unacceptable. This is taking on an almost "David and Goliath" theme, in my opinion, and no measure for mitigation created by 20 2 mile long trains should even be further analyzed. The health and safety of our citizens are very much at risk. There have been many citizen concerns expressed: health/safety issues for children traveling to and from school, emergency response units, environmental issues, economic concerns for future growth and development of our area. However, the most compelling issue is that of the health and safety of our school children. Barrington High School is located 600 ft. from the rail lines, rail lines cross 7 major roads, school buses alone cross the tracks 840 times daily bringing children to and from school, many students walk to school having to cross tracks or are driven by themselves or parents. We MUST put the safety of our school children and all others in our community above economic gains for Canadian National. Moreover, if an existing company or business in Barrington wanted to increase its business by 400% and in order to do so needed to build a high rise structure in downtown Barrington I am quite certain it would never pass! Building/zoning codes would simply not allow it in our community or similar communities.. How is it possible then that the aggressive business plans of CN which would so impact negatively many such communities like Barrington are still being considered? Our community and others have seen many railroad tragedies. Please do not put us at further risk by allowing this to aggressive plan to become a daily reality!

Finally, we, the community of Barrington, are certainly the "David" "if I may use that analogy again and CN is the" Goliath"! I am urging all who have the powers to act on our behalf to do the right thing and not let this aggressive plan continue! Please hear our voices before it is too late and STOP THE TRAINS AND SAVE BARRINGTON.

**Sincerely,
 Mary Margaret Olson
 8/27/08**