

September 23, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
STB Finance Docket No. 35087
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Mrs. Johnson-Ball:

Just a short not to voice my extreme opposition to the Canadian National Railway acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway in northeast Illinois. This deal is a DISASTER!

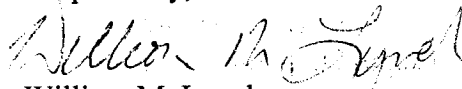
While it will alleviate rail traffic through Chicago, it will cripple millions of commuters (my current commute is 2 hours to Chicago by car), pummel property values in numerous suburbs, adversely effect emergency services such as ambulance, police and fire response times, increase noise pollution, exponentially increase the likelihood of accidents, deaths and HAZMAT exposure.

Approximately 80% of the crossings are at grade. In my community alone (Plainfield – the 2nd fastest growing suburb in the nation), 16 of 17 crossings are at grade. Traffic is already congested at rush hours. Even after these two-mile long trains pass, the traffic backup will take multiple traffic signal cycles to clear.

This acquisition is going to line the pockets of a FOREIGN COMPANY that could not care less if we rot waiting for their 25-30, 10,000 foot trains daily through our bucolic communities. To add insult to injury, Canadian National has steadfastly refused to pony up any meaningful monies to build over/underpasses to mitigate the multiple adverse effects of the landslide of additional trains. Additionally, Canadian National has tried to bully everyone (including the environmental review) through the approval process.

Please vote "NO" to this disaster waiting to happen. If this acquisition goes forward as-is or without major modifications, the political and economic repercussions will be enormous.

Respectfully,



William M. Lynch
13201 Taylor Street
Plainfield, IL
60585