

964 Pheasant Ridge Dr
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

September 28, 2008

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
STB Finance Docket No. 35087
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

I am writing to you in opposition to the acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad Line by Canadian National.

I am concerned with the obvious problems associated with additional rail traffic that would result from this acquisition, such as excessive noise and vibration, increased congestion, and traffic delays, however; my greatest concerns are the overwhelming negative impact this acquisition will have on our community. Specifically:

Environmentally Destructive

- Vehicle gridlock at the crossings will negatively impact air quality.
- Excessive wait times at crossings will increase fuel consumption.
- Today approximately 8 cars per day carry hazardous waste; the acquisition could result in almost 180 cars per day of hazardous waste

Potentially Deadly Traffic Congestion

- One consulting firm has estimated up to 5 hours of delays daily
- Emergency vehicles use routes that intersect with train crossings. A delay caused by a two-mile long train – which can take 15 minutes to move through an intersection – could **make the difference between life or death in certain situations.**
- Our school buses cross train crossings. The increased number of trains on the tracks increases the chances of a **horrific accident.** Making our children sit through rail congested traffic will either make them late for school, or force them to board the busses significantly earlier to compensate for the extra time they are forced to sit on the bus.
- Increased rail traffic means an **increased likelihood of train accidents involving pedestrians.** Since many of the intersections that would be affected by the acquisition are near schools, youth sports centers, and downtown areas, pedestrians – particularly children – could be adversely and even **fatally affected.**

The proposed acquisition is dangerous and disruptive, and Canadian National has shown a complete disregard of our communities' needs and concerns. Please deny the proposal, or at a minimum insist that Canadian National implement and fund the necessary steps to ensure the security and safety of our communities.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rebekah Morrison