

September 24, 2008

24908 Chalk Hill Court
Plainfield, IL 60544-2951

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

I am writing to express my opposition to the prospective acquisition of the EJ&E line by Canadian National Railway. I strongly feel that the negative impact this proposed transaction will have on my town of Plainfield, IL is immense. These 2-mile long trains will come every 20 minutes leaving only 10-15 minutes/hour for commuters to actually cross the at-grade crossings. **THERE ARE NO BRIDGES!!** The increased number of longer and faster freight trains running through our neighborhoods will result in:

- More accidents and deaths along the rail line
- An increase in automobile traffic gridlock at rail crossings
- Elevated pollution and noise levels
- Dangerously longer response times of our Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Teams
- Disruption and/or closure of local business activities
- Adverse impact on our property values

Additionally, recent studies by RTA have revealed that a potential overcrowding of the EJ&E lines will also interfere with commuter METRA train lines affecting our ability to get to and from our workplaces in a timely manner. It will likely kill the proposed STAR Commuter Line that has been in the works for several years, with thousands of dollars already spent in the planning.

Please do not let us be "railroaded" by Canadian National, who has been so absolutely arrogant about this acquisition. We are hopeful that you will make the decision to vote against this acquisition and to help keep the communities along the EJ&E tracks safe for us and for future generations.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Kilsdonk