

September 21, 2008

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

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

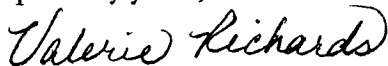
I am writing to express my **opposition** to the prospective acquisition of the EJ&E line by Canadian National Railway. As a resident of Plainfield, IL and more importantly my local neighborhood, which is located near the railroad track, I strongly feel the negative impact created through this proposed transaction is immense. 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 the ability of people in the Plainfield and Joliet area to get to and from workplaces in a timely manner.

Please do not let the Illinois residents be "railroaded" by Canadian National. I know you will make the correct decision to **vote against** this acquisition and to help keep all of the affected communities safe for us and for future generations.

Respectfully yours,



Valerie Richards