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August 4, 2008

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

RE: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation Control- EJ&E
West Company (STB Finance Docket No. 35087)

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

As a resident of Village of Bartlett, Illinois I am writing to express my strong opposition to Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation's (CN) purchase of the EJ&E rail line.

CN estimates that the average number of daily trains will increase from 5.5 to 23.5 along the section of the EJ&E that traverses Bartlett. I am very concerned that my community will be facing significant issues related to public safety, environment, traffic gridlock, and emergency response times if this acquisition is approved.

None of these issues are being adequately dealt with by the CN. I understand that the Surface Transportation Board is charged with the review and approval process for transactions of this type, and has as its mandate to foster rail commerce. However, if your agency does not protect communities from the actions of the railroads, transactions like the one proposed by CN will devastate the viability and livability of villages and towns all along the rail line.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Name

Valerie B. Southard

Address:

104 Seventh Ave
Bartlett IL 60103