

15973

Donna M. Tarvid
516 Durham Drive
Frankfort, Illinois 60423
(815) 469-7015

September 23, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

I am writing to ask the Surface Transportation Board to completely REJECT the proposed acquisition of the Elgin Joliet & Eastern Railway (EJ&E) by Canadian National (CN). This acquisition offers no economic advantages except to CN's profits. Please consider key impact issues, both locally and nationally, which include:

- Decreased property values;
- Delayed emergency response time;
- Diminished economic viability due to workers delayed getting to work, employers delayed getting to their businesses;
- Increased train congestion;
- Increased train derailments;
- Increased vehicle and pedestrian accidents.

CN claims there will be decreased train traffic in the areas CN currently serves, but that reduction would only be short-lived and the void would fill in quickly. If this acquisition were approved, both the EJ&E arc and the current train routes through Chicago would both be at a gridlock with detrimental effects to the entire Chicagoland area.

I ask the Board to reject this acquisition in its entirety.

Sincerely,



Donna M. Tarvid