

August 25, 2008
 112 Racine Court
 Lake Zurich, IL 60047
 USA

Phyllis Johnson-Ball
 Surface Transportation Board
 395 E Street, SW
 Washington, DC 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Ball:

I, as well as my neighbors and neighboring communities, are extremely upset and oppose the acquisition by the Canadian National RR of the existing EJ&E line. Here is a very short argument as a way of explanation:

1. Of utmost importance is our children who are within a few hundred yards of hazardous rail cargo, as well as the overall increased rail traffic in general. This not only jeopardizes their air quality, and increases carbon monoxide emissions, etc. but the air quality of our adults as well.
2. Next, but no less important, is the delay in emergency response times that this will create for emergency services personnel, with the potential for increased loss of life when trying to get to hospitals or other venues for emergency care.
3. This will create a major impact on pedestrian safety (both adult and children), not to mention vehicular safety, which of course does not compare to loss of life.
4. Lastly, although not of as great of importance as overall safety, is that our quiet residential neighborhoods will suffer increased noise pollution as well as a reduction in our normal high air quality, reduces our property values, that we as American Citizens all work so hard to maintain a good quality of life for our families.

Something HAS to be done. Why are we letting a "foreign" country disrupt our lives? The World has created enough of a burden on our United States of America with war, famine and other issues that should be none of our responsibility. Why should a "foreign" country increase "their" revenue at "our" expense and those of our families?!?

Respectfully,



Danielle Berkemeier

Cc: US Senator Richard J. Durbin
 US Senator Barack O'Bama
 US Representative Melissa Bean