

September 24, 2008

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

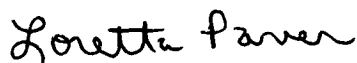
Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

As a resident of New Lenox, I would like to express my concern regarding the proposed purchase of the EJ&E Railway by Canadian National Railway: Among numerous fears such as detained emergency vehicles, falling property values, increased taxes and congestion that will gravely impact the quality of life in New Lenox, I would like to address the Canadian National Railway in conjunction to the new Lincoln-Way West High School that will open in fall, 2009. First and foremost, the tracks are less than a mile from the high school. The hazardous materials being transported poses a threat to the safety and well-being of the students and residents of the community. Secondly, the amount of traffic will be increased due to approximately 1200 students traveling on busses or cars, as well as additional vehicles from faculty and staff. This high volume of traffic coupled with normal rush hour traffic creates a perpetual burden for the residents of New Lenox that will only be exacerbated by trains that are 2-3 miles in length running regularly at all hours. One can foresee that the rate of senseless accidents will increase as students frantically hurry to get to school on time. The high school will certainly have a situation to deal with when students come in late every morning causing continuous disruption. Furthermore, the once small town community atmosphere of New Lenox will exist no more. As New Lenox continues to grow and develop, let's take responsibility to preserve what we can of this once quiet and peaceable town that has been home to many families for 20+ years.

Please take into consideration the concerns of the Lincoln-Way community when you make your recommendation and vote NO to the Canadian National Railway.

Sincerely,



Loretta Paver
1209 Andrea Drive
New Lenox, IL 60451