

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Mr. Richard Morajda
32 Darlington Drive
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047-8021

DATE: 09/30/2008

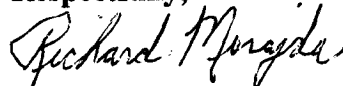
REG: Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

I am sending you this letter asking that the Surface Transportation Board follow the intent of HR 6707. It was sidetracked temporarily with intense lobbying by CN in the House of Representatives on 9/27/2008. However, I hope that the bill will be taken up again before the end of this year. Hopefully it can be voted on with a simple majority vote. The EJ & E, railroad line has gone from a single track rural line at its beginning to a single track line running through congested two lane roads during rush hour traffic. Most of these intersecting roads are at surface level. Commuters crossing these lines are on their way to their jobs in Chicago or Suburbs of Chicago in various Illinois counties. Parts of Indiana are also affected.

I feel that it is totally unfair for a foreign company like Canadian National to only offer \$40 million for over/underpass construction when this amount would only cover the cost of one or two intersection improvements. There is a need for at least thirty or more over/underpass construction projects to alleviate traffic congestion and to allow emergency vehicle access in a reasonable amount of time. The superhighway freight line projected by CN would bring air and noise pollution. It would also lower the value of homes in most of the communities that it would run through. It would also interfere with commuter rail lines crossing its track. It also would negatively affect commuter rail line projects that are currently in the planning stage.

Please notify Canadian National that its application to acquire the EJ & E is rejected.

Respectfully,



Richard Morajda