

September 22, 2008

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

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

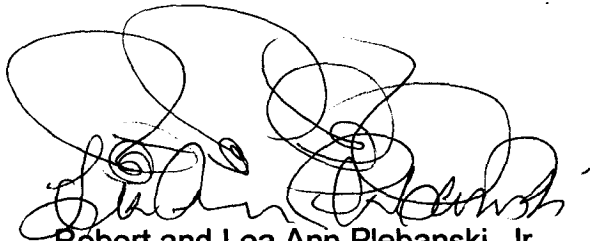
Dear Ms. Bell,

I am writing to you to voice my objections to Canadian National's (CN) potential purchase of the EJE railroad line that runs through New Lenox. My family lives on the far south side of the village past the EJE tracks and our daily lives would be greatly impacted by the increased amount of train traffic since all crossings in the area are grade crossings

The increased CN traffic would have a tremendous effect on the response time for police, fire and medical emergencies. It would affect school bus routes as most of New Lenox's schools are on the north side of the tracks. It would affect commuters getting to and from their homes and the Metra stations that serve the area. If one of CN's 3 mile long trains were to break down it would mean going miles out of the way to get around the crossing adding not minutes, but up to 30 minutes of travel. This is a life safety issue that needs to be considered.

CN has responded by saying New Lenox and the other communities will have to build trestle crossings, but expects the U.S. taxpayers to pay the lions share of the improvement cost. Why should New Lenox have to pay for this construction when Canadian National is the one benefiting from this purchase? This is a billion dollar a year corporation. CN can afford to make these improvements and they shouldn't be on the backs of the U.S. taxpayer.

We urge you not to approve this sale, but if you must, you need to put the full financial burden on CN to build barrier free crossings throughout these towns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert and Lea Ann Plebanski, Jr.', with a large, stylized flourish above it.

Robert and Lea Ann Plebanski, Jr.
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New Lenox, Illinois 60451
815-485-0144