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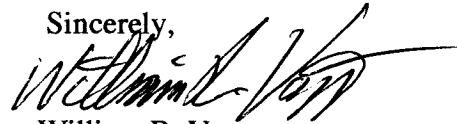
9/24/08

Dear, Phillis Johnson-Ball Surface Transportation Board

I live in an area (New Lenox, IL) where the Canadian National Railroad (CN) is Proposing to Purchase the Elgin, Joliet, & Eastern Railway (E.J. & E.). Using the E.J.&E. Railway will dramatically impact the safety, congestion and travel for the majority of our residents, schools, businesses and all of the emergency services. In our town alone 5 roads traveling North /South will be impacted by proposed trains that may exceed 30 per day with some that may extend 3 miles in length. The response time of our Police, Fire, and Medical Emergencies will drastically be impacted. There is also little talk of the Overpasses and Underpasses that will be needed if bought, my understanding is that they (CN) only have to pay 5 to 10 percent of the cost with the balance being the Taxpayers responsibility. Let us not forget the Increased Amounts of Hazardous Material transported Through Our Communities, which is frightening. When a Foreign Railroad has more than \$2 Billion dollars Profits from last years \$8 Billion revenue surely they can find existing, alternative rail routes located around and outside the metropolitan Chicago area for purchase. Before being approved there should be a comprehensive assessment of all significant impacts and with the risks being properly addressed. Honestly this purchase will put a big hurt on towns trying to live the American Dream.

PLEASE RECONSIDER!

Sincerely,



William R. Vogt