

September 26, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Federal Surface Transportation Board (FSTB) Finance Docket No. 35087
395 E. Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RE: Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

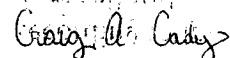
I am writing in strong opposition to the Canadian National Railway Corporation's attempt to seek approval to acquire the Elgin Joliet & Eastern (EJ&E) Railway. This acquisition would have a significant negative impact on many communities along the rail line of travel. According to the Canadian National Railway Corporation's own estimates, over the next three years rail traffic will increase from an average of sixteen (16) trains per day to an average of forty-two (42) trains per day. In addition, Canadian National Railway Corporation also indicates their freight trains will run up to nearly two miles in length (10,000 feet).

This increased number of longer trains running through our neighborhoods will result in more accidents, dangerously longer response times for Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Teams (EMT), an increase in traffic gridlock at rail crossings, and elevated pollution and noise levels. In addition, it will adversely impact property values.

Furthermore, recent studies by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) has revealed that a potential overcrowding of the EJ&E lines will also interfere with commuter Metropolitan Rail (METRA) trains, affecting people's ability to get to and from their workplaces in a timely manner.

In conclusion, I can only hope you will review the evidence presented and vote against the acquisition of the EJ&E by the Canadian National Railway Corporation, thus keeping this proposed transaction from negatively impacting our communities.

Respectfully yours,



Craig A. Cady
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