

September 26, 2008

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

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

I am writing to express my opposition to the prospective acquisition of the EJ&E line by Canadian National Railway. I strongly feel that the negative impact this proposed transaction will have on our local communities is immense.

As a resident of Shorewood, Illinois, I currently reside less than ¼-mile from a portion of the EJ&E line that would be impacted by increased rail traffic. I recently relocated to Shorewood to move away from the constant overcrowding and dangerous conditions that exist on our roads today and this acquisition would bring that same overcrowding to a quiet community. The current rail traffic near my home is minimal and tolerable. An increase in that traffic, as well as the congestion and noise that would accompany it will only decrease the value of my property. This is a circumstance that is undesirable and unacceptable to any taxpayer in today's economic environment.

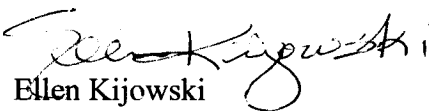
The increased number of longer and faster freight trains running through suburban neighborhoods will ultimately result in:

- More accidents and deaths along the rail line
- An increase in automobile traffic gridlock at rail crossings
- Elevated pollution and noise levels
- Dangerously longer response times of our Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Teams
- Disruption and/or closure of local business activities
- Adverse impact on our property values

Additionally, recent studies by RTA have revealed that a potential overcrowding of the EJ&E lines will also interfere with commuter METRA train lines affecting our ability to get to and from our workplaces in a timely manner. This commuter rail interference will ultimately exacerbate an already less-than-desirable mass transit situation that the suburban populace currently faces.

I am hopeful that you will make the decision to vote against this acquisition and to help keep our communities safe not only for us, but for future generations as well.

Respectfully yours,


Ellen Kijowski
21402 Westminster Lane
Shorewood, IL 60404