

Johnson - Ball

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Docket #: - -

Subject: * Proposed Acquisition of EJ&E Railroad by Canadian National Railway
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 Message:

There stands a broad coalition of diverse interests concerned about protecting and maintaining the quality of life within our community. The introduction of increased rail traffic as a result of the proposed purchase of Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company by the Canadian National Railway undermines the efforts of the citizens of Lake Zurich to enhance this community's environment building upon the characteristics that initially attracted these same people to the area.

Surface Transportation Board
 CN-EJ&E EIS - FD-35087

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We are intensely opposed to the acquisition as it will

- inhibit the ability of emergency vehicles to effectively respond to safety concerns and emergencies.

- create tremendous inconveniences to the residences of Lake Zurich and the surrounding area as traffic congestion would be considerably enhanced.

- promote increased air emissions which would essentially offset the benefit of reduced air emissions in the city of Chicago due to idling train engines which would be re-directed to the line passing through Lake Zurich.

- tax an existing rail infrastructure that may not be prepared to effectively handle such an enormous increase in rail traffic potentially leading to disastrous results.

- possibly curtail any developmental plans for the downtown district of Lake Zurich, thus impacting future economic development of the area.

The benefit to the shareholders of Canadian National Railway should not outweigh the

concerns of the dramatically impacted citizens and the significant issues created as a result of the proposed acquisition. We strongly urge the Surface Transportation Board to oppose the transaction.