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HAWTHORN WOODS, ILLINOIS 60047-7729

July 24, 2008

STB rec'd 9/22/08

Ms Victoria Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket number 35087

Dear Ms. Rutson:

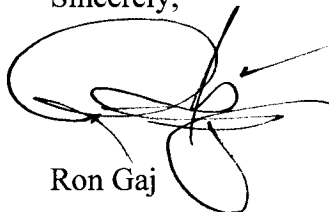
Please accept this letter as my declaration of opposition to the Canadian National Railroad being allowed to purchase the EJ&E Railroad here in Northern Illinois. The plan of Canadian National to increase the number of trains by a factor of four or five would impact the health and safety of every community where the EJ&E intersects. Here in Hawthorn Woods, Illinois our fire and ambulance station serves nearly have the township separated by the EJ&E track. Should Canadian National gain ownership and produce the expected increase in rail traffic, our accessibility to timely fire and safety services would become virtually non-existent.

As an example; for all of the residents living near the intersection of Quentin and Old McHenry Roads, when a long freight train is blocking the intersections at Gilmer Road, Old McHenry Road, Oakwood Road, and original Route 22, fire trucks and ambulances would have to make a four (4) mile detour by traveling south into Lake Zurich to use the railroad underpass on new Route 22. This amounts to nothing but a negative impact on the quality of life.

That scenario will be played out time and time again along the entire route of the EJ&E.

In advance, I want to thank you for taking in the consideration of all the citizens along the EJ&E route.

Sincerely,



Ron Gaj