

9/18/2008

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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. The increased number of longer and faster freight trains running through our neighborhoods will 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. Please do not let us be "railroaded" by Canadian National. We are hopeful that you will make the decision to vote against this acquisition and to help keep our communities safe for us and for future generations.

On a more personal level, this will greatly impact us personally as the tracks are located directly behind our home. When the trains back up at night, it already impacts the sleep of all in our household. We have to sleep with our windows closed now, and still at times are awoken by the large engines. We work all day, and our home is where we come to be together and relax. It's very frustrating to put all your money into a home, and then in 2 years have the value compromised and your personal life constantly disruptive by someone else's decisions! If this was your home, your haven from the daily stress and grinds of work, your lifelong investment, would you want all those trains impacting your home life all night and day??? We appeal to you to vote against this acquisition. Our nation's housing market is in bad shape and this effects so many families.

Respectfully yours,


Corey and Janyl Blatt
10619 Shilling Road
Frankfort, IL 60423