

September 29,2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW Washington, DC 2043

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

I am writing in protest of the Canadian Railway and EJ& E Railway merger in our area. My husband and I are very concerned about this merger for many reasons. We have lived in New Lenox for over thirty years. We now live in a subdivision directly off of Laraway Road.

If this merger goes through, it will cut us off from New Lenox. We would be spending a large part of the day waiting to cross the railroad tracks to try to reach town for all our services. It also increases the risk of spills and accidents.

My husband and I live in the township limits. The economy is already causing us to have to delay selling our home and retiring. We struggle to pay our mortgage, and our \$9,000.00 Real Estate Tax Bill. This merger will also create a financial burden, since we can not imagine some one who would be interested in purchasing our home under these conditions.

We are extremely concerned that our home value will suffer. This is our only investment! I know other people, have made similar sacrifices to live in this area, and support our fine schools. We can not understand why the Canadian Railway should think that this area should not be considered for the huge impact this would have on our lives and property values.

We are asking you to please take into consideration the many negative changes to this area.

Valerie Hoholik
1739 Bellechase Drive
New Lenox, Illinois 60451
815-485-8904 8-27-451-014-0000

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valerie J. Hoholik". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.