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September 30, 2008

Phyllis Johnson-Ball  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street SW  
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

I am a resident of Frankfort, IL and I am formally opposing the proposed Canadian National Railway acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad.

Like many people that oppose this acquisition, I am extremely concerned about the overall impact that this will have on the safety and health of our community. The addition of twenty plus trains a day will certainly create a variety of safety related issues that are just short of being frightening.

The trains that currently come through our town operate at safe speeds and certainly warn the residents of their approach to the numerous intersections. The addition of twenty plus trains traveling at two to three times the speed of the current trains is hard to fathom when you consider the size and capacity of these trains. The increase of hazardous materials coming within feet of homes, schools, businesses and our beautiful camp retreat is not acceptable.

I work in a safety related industry and have been exposed to many train related incidents and can tell you first hand that it is just a matter of time before one of these proposed trains is involved in such a failure. I worry about the safety and welfare of our citizens and hope that everyone involved in the decision making process takes into consideration the risk associated with such an acquisition.

Please take the time to review all potential safety related records, statistics and costs involved with the potential increase from an acquisition such as this one. There are many people who will have their lives severely altered as a result of the approval of this sale and I certainly believe it would be the wrong decision to approve this deal.

Thank you for listening to my concerns and I will anxiously await the Board's decision.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter Sierocki', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Walter Sierocki