

TO: Surface Transportation Board
FROM: Gregg Goslin, Commissioner, Cook County Board
DATE: September 11, 2008

**RE: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation
Acquisition of EJ&E West Company**

I am writing today to express my strong opposition to the acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railroad by the Canadian National Railroad. The proposed acquisition would increase freight traffic through Cook County by 400% and create a exceptionally unsafe environment.

In the 14th District of Cook County, which I represent, this dramatic increase in freight traffic will have a devastating impact on local communities ill-equipped to handle such traffic. School buses and children will be waiting at and crossing tracks with this 400% increase in freight traffic. First responders will be unable to respond quickly to emergencies in communities that will now be divided by trains nearly two miles in length.

Those of us who oppose the acquisition are not reacting with a "not in my backyard" response, but rather with alarm of the devastating impact on the present and future of our local community.

GG/tg

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Please fill out the following information to help us complete your filing:

Docket #: - - -

Subject: * CN acquisition of EJ & E
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Group/Affiliation: Cook County Board of Commissioners

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