

Neighbors Against Noise

September 30, 2008

Ms. Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

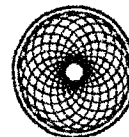
PO BOX 452
Warrenville IL 60555

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 35087, CN Proposed Purchase of the EJ&E

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball,

As residents of a community that will be greatly harmed by the increased number of freight trains that would operate through the area if Canadian National Railway (CN) is allowed to purchase the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Company (EJ&E) rail line, we strongly urge you to deny the CN's request to purchase this rail line. We are very concerned that Warrenville will face significant hardships by the huge increase of train traffic including major economic losses, extensive traffic gridlock, harm to wildlife and the environment, severe reduction in emergency response times, and huge increases in noise and vibration from the trains.

A greater concern to us is that actual impacts to the region are being massively underestimated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement as a result of the CN's unwillingness to provide freight traffic projections beyond three years. Once CN's operations increase in Phase 2 of an expansion to a major new port, the Port of Prince Rupert in western Canada, which begins soon after that three-year period, there will be a huge surge in train traffic that will be many times greater than existing projections. If the American Association of Railroads can demand taxpayer investments in rail infrastructure to accommodate a projected growth in rail freight of 88% by 2035, then the CN should be required to provide operational projections to at least 2020.



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Please take our concerns into consideration and deny the CN's request to buy the EJ&E line. Surely you can appreciate, additionally, our concerns about the erosion of our property values in these times of great economic crisis and uncertainty.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

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CC:
Senator Barack Obama, US Senate
Senator Dick Durbin, US Senate
Congressman Bill Foster, 14th District US Congress
Senator Chris Lauzen, 25th District Illinois Senate