

September 26, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball

Surface Transportation Board
385 E. Street, SW
Washington, D. C. 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

I am writing this letter to protest the acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway by the Canadian National Railway. In our area, the E J & E railroad tracks is a single track and when trains are traveling in opposite directions, one train sits on a siding until the first train passes then moves onto the main track and proceeds. This maneuver can take several minutes to pass a crossing.

Also there are several schools which are built near the tracks and any accident with trains carrying toxic waste could create life threatening conditions. The tracks are not in good condition and there are several areas where speed limits are set at 10 miles per hour.

Canadian National has not proposed to spend any money to improve track crossings to alleviate traffic problems that will be generated by the increased number of trains that will be using the "J" tracks. The arrogant manner of Canadian National personnel does not please the public either.

The transfer of train traffic from one area to the "J" Area will not improve speeding up train traffic as much as been sited as a reason for making this acquisition.

Respectfully



Mark C. Batson