

September 12, 2008

STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Phyllis Johnson-Ball,

I am writing to make you aware that I oppose the Canadian National Railroad acquisition of the EJ & E Railroad. Below I will list a few negative impacts that disturb me most. My main concern is the increase of trains from 4 times a day to 24 with these trains being twice as long. The increase train traffic is a safety issue for school buses and increases possible train/school bus conflicts. Secondly, I am concerned that the increase in the number and length of trains will delay emergency response times causing unnecessary loss of life. There is also an increased risk of children being harmed when crossing the tracks despite warnings. Hazardous rail cargo within a few hundred yards of our schools is another extremely alarming issue.

I am urging you to reconsider the above mentioned matter for the safety of Lake Zurich and surrounding communities. This acquisition will bring nothing positive to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kass". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and the last name "Kass" clearly legible.

Mary Kass
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Lake Zurich, IL 60047
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