

September 28, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Ref: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

As a resident of New Lenox, Illinois, a community that will be negatively impacted with the increased number of trains being proposed with the purchase of the EJ&E railroad by the CN railroad, I would like to express my concerns regarding this matter. I understand that the number of trains may exceed 30 trains each day in the future and that these trains may extend 3 miles in length, causing over 20 minute crossing delays.

I adamantly believe this purchase would bring significant unwelcome changes to our community. As a resident living south of the EJ&E tracks, any delay in crossing the tracks by our emergency services response team could be a life-threatening situation since both area hospitals are north of the EJ&E tracks. Also, the proximity of the railroad tracks to several schools in our community, including the new Lincoln-Way West High School Campus, causes concern regarding safety, pollution and noise issues. Increased traffic congestion on all five of our north/south roads where the tracks cross will cause additional headaches as well as delayed residents being late for school and work.

Please take my concerns into consideration when you make your recommendation and vote no to the CN.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristy M. Vahl".

Kristy M. Vahl
1521 Knight Avenue
New Lenox, IL 60451