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MAPLE HILL

MAPLE HILL CONDO ASSOCIATION

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Phillis Johnson-Ball
STB Finance Docket No. 35087
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

September 11, 2008

**RE: Canadian National Railway Company and Grand Trunk Corporation—
EJ&E West Company (STB Finance Docket No.35087)**

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

On behalf of the Maple Hill Condo Association, Board of Directors, we want to convey our views and opposition to the proposed purchase of the EJ&E Railroad by Canadian National. Our board consists of five active members, namely; Jerry McCarty, President, Delores Petruzzelli, Vice President, Marilyn Hayes, Director, Chuck Lohenry, Treasurer and Don Talaga, Secretary. We are all longtime residents of Warrenville. We, as a governing board, speak not only for ourselves, but also for our Maple Hill residents.

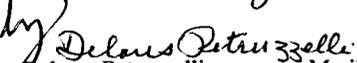
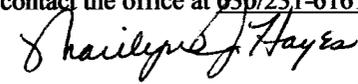
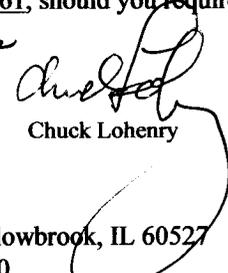
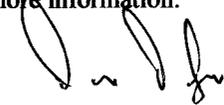
Our community borders Route 59 and the present EJ&E Railroad tracks, between Joliet Street and Mack Road. Our neighborhood is home to white and blue-collar workers, retirees and young families, singles and couples from various ethnic backgrounds. In total, there are 321 town homes and villas. We have been closely studying the unfolding news about the proposed railway purchase. If this sale moves forward, our community will be adversely affected. Our primary concern is for a healthy environment for our families and neighbors. Some of the reasons why we oppose this transaction are:

- Significant increases in train traffic, as much as 70%
- Hazardous waste materials and mélange of toxic chemicals will threaten our environment
- Emergency responders will be blocked from getting to their destinations due to increased train traffic at crossings
- There will be an increase in pollutants from automobile/truck exhaust, while waiting longer periods for the trains to pass at designated crossings
- A direct and permanent negative impact will be evident on wildlife and plant life, including the endangered wetlands in our neighborhood and adjoining areas
- Numerous and heavier trains will pass directly over a natural gas line in the Warrenville community
- Property values will decline significantly, while our taxes continue to increase
- There will be a substantial increase in vibrations from passing train traffic
- This proposed sale will extinguish any hope of reducing noise pollution
- Plans for the anticipated Star Line commuter train will be abolished

The potential environmental impact related to Maple Hill and the numerous residential communities located immediately adjacent to the EJ&E Railway, including an elementary school and park located less than a mile away is alarming. The city of Warrenville's has invested over three years in ongoing efforts to establish a quiet zone. The households near the EJ&E Railway have experienced years of vibration and noise pollution from existing train traffic. The proposed increase in traffic will further advance this debilitating consequence.

It is because of the above concerns regarding safety and quality of life that we vigorously oppose this transaction. We hope that the Surface Transportation Board will consider the severe impact on local residents when evaluating this transaction and move to stop this sale. Please contact the office at 630/231-6161, should you require more information.

Sincerely,


 Jerry McCarty

 Delores Petruzzelli

 Marilyn Hayes

 Chuck Lohenry

 Don Talaga

Cc: Judy Biggert, U.S. Representative- 6262 South Rt.83, Suite 305, Willowbrook, IL 60527
Bill Foster, U.S. Representative- 27 North River St., Batavia, IL 60510